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•Box Office Poison #1 •Broken Axis #1 • Code Name: Scorpio #1 •Furrlough #46 •Gold Digger #32 Collected Gold Digger #5 • Guzzi LeMans #2 • Lillith Demon Princess #2 •Lillith Poster #1 • Magical Mates #5 • Masked Warrior X #4 •Ninja High School Spotlight on: Fred Perry •NHS 1996 Yearbook • Taboux Book 3 • Melty Feeling #1(Venus; Adult) • Amazing Strip TPB #1(Venus; Adult) • Amazing Strip TPB #2(Venus; Adult)

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BIGI NEWI DIFFERENTI

rdinarily, I'm not much of a hype-ster. My job is to find good stuff and then ensure that everything that needs to happen does happen, so that the good stuff makes it all the way from my in-box to your hands. But when I sat down to write this editorial, I couldn't help using those words that most exude hype . . .

Big.
New.
Different.

This is the first month for several big, new, different things — which is appropriate, since the purchase of Capital City by Diamond a few months back put us in a big, new, different world. For the first time, something like 97% of our orders for comics are coming from a single distributor.

Luckily, we've got some great comics coming out this month. There's Code Name: Scorpio, a full-color action masterpiece by two great talents from Croatia, Miljenko Horvatic and Esad T. Ribic. You won't find better art or a more thrilling story anywhere in comics, and you'll be sorry if you miss this one.

Also not to be missed is **Box Office Poison**, a remarkably well-drawn, funny and (dare I say it) thoughtful comic from Alex Robinson. The minicomic version of this book brought Alex a certain fame and notoriety, and the full-sized comic will certainly bring him even more acclaim. With a cast as eccentric as **Ninja High School**, dialogue as real as **Strangers in Paradise**, and real-world observations as witty as **Naked Eye**, this book should please just about anybody who's ever enjoyed an AP book.

by Herb Mallette

And Big, New, Different things are even happening with some of our oldest series, like Gold Digger and Ninja High School. Starting this month in GD#32, and continuing for a full year, Fred Perry will bring the GD and NHS worlds together in the longest crossover AP has ever attempted. "Time Warp" is also the most ambitious storyline Fred has ever done, taking the full casts of both books on a rollercoaster ride through all of history and lasting *twelve* total issues.

As if that wasn't enough, Ben Dunn and Ted Nomura bring you the highly unusual **Broken Axis** this month, a wild mucking-up of history in which aliens force the world leaders of World War II to duke it out themselves for world supremacy!

The Biggest, Newest and Most Different, though, is the Warrior Nun Areala Action Figure. No other company our size has ever done its own toy, and few companies of any size have ever done a toy this cool.

The comic book market has had a tough couple of years, but that's no reason we should let ourselves get down about comics themselves. Everybody here at AP is lucky to work in an exciting and fun entertainment form, and we're going to do our darnedest to keep producing comics and products that are exciting and fun for our readers as well.

I guess that's one more thing that's Big and Different about AP... but it's not New. We've felt that way for over ten years now.

Editor In Chief

FURRLOUGH

NUMBER 46 • VOLUME 1 • OCTOBER 1996



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Production • mpc & mew
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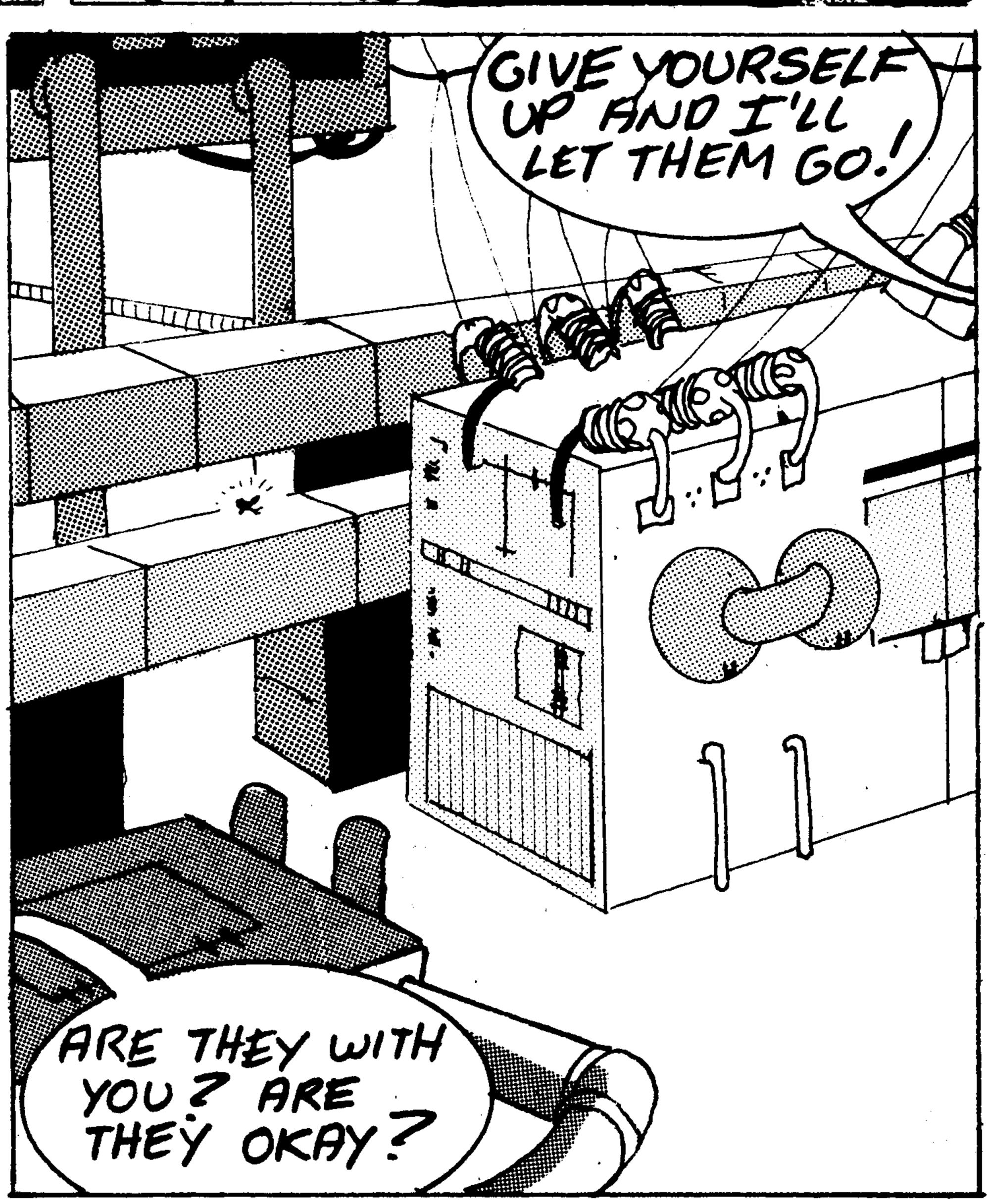
EDITOR'S NOTE

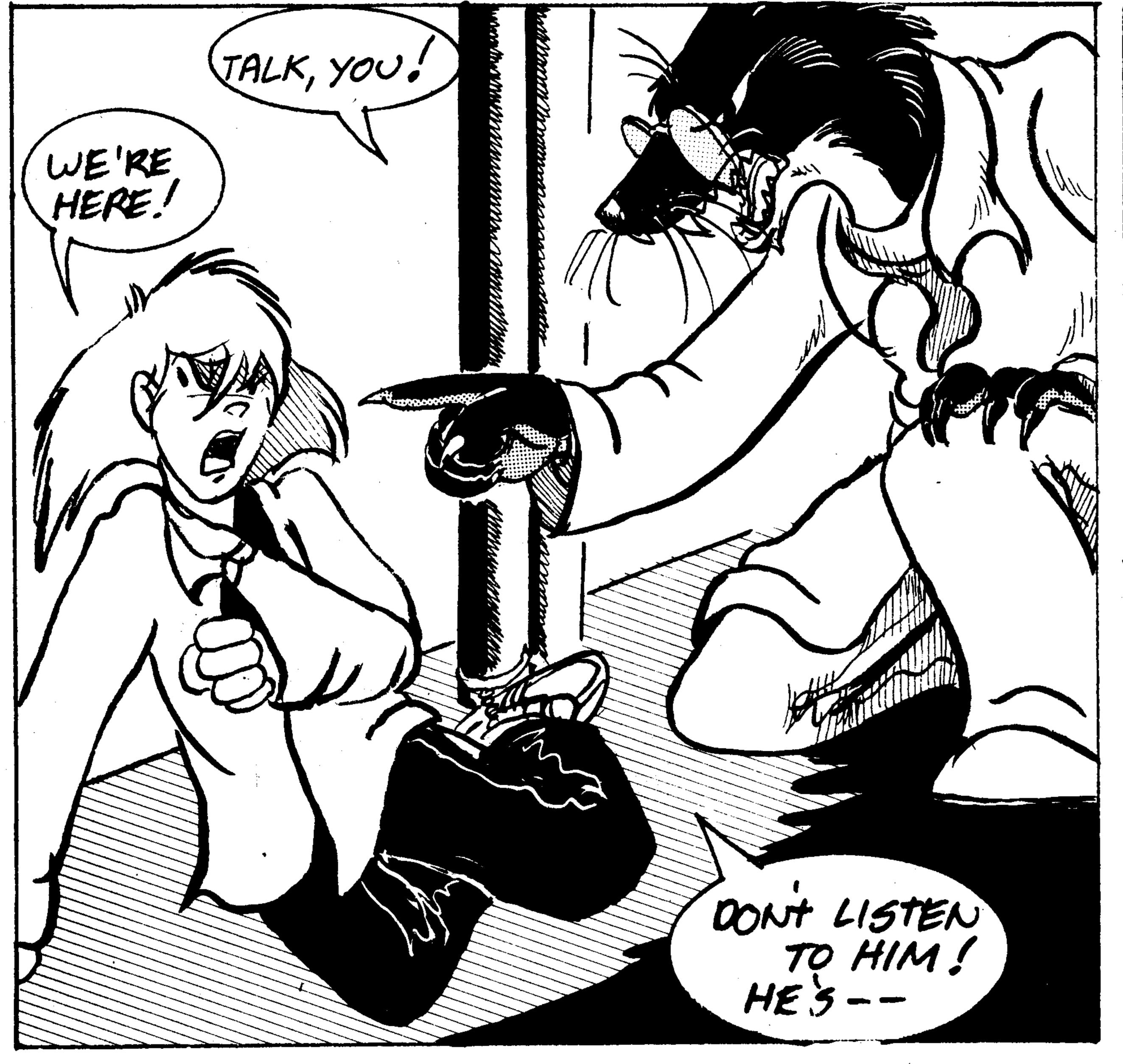
The cover to Furrlough #43 was colored by Tim Fitelson. In the rush to get the book out, his name was neglected on the table of contents page— and then in the rush to get the subsequent issues out, this apology was left off! We extend our deepest apologies to Tim!--EW

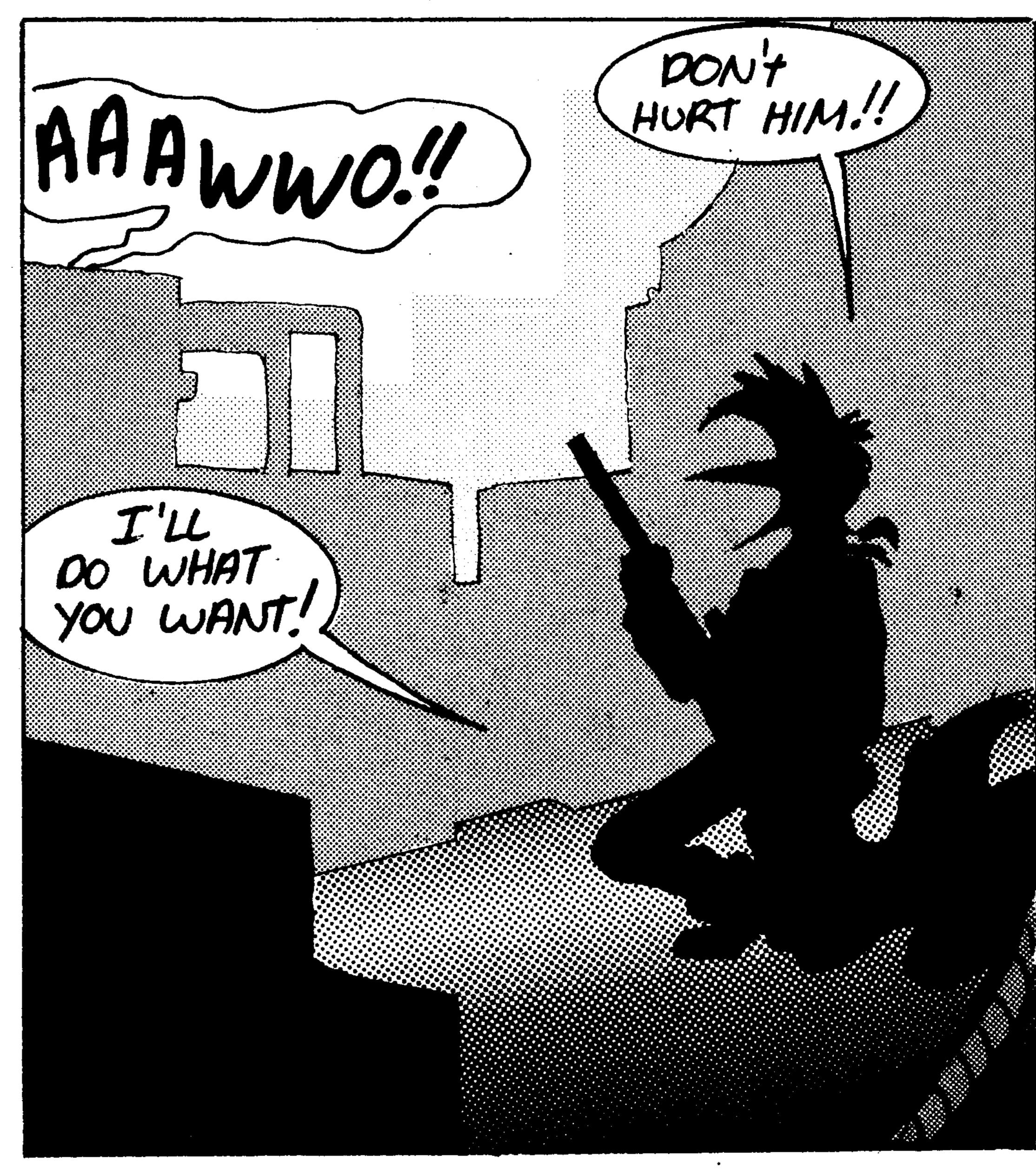




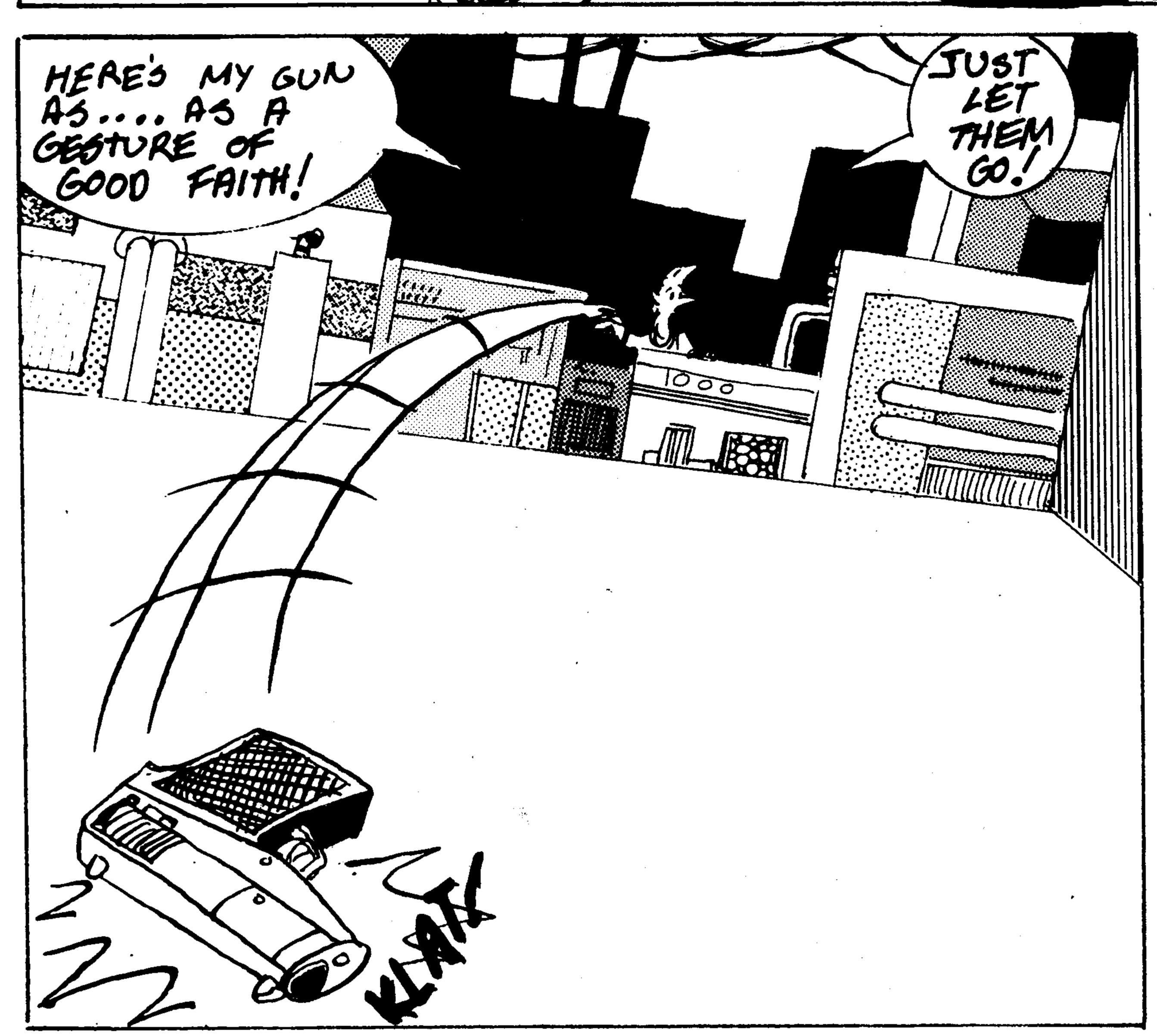


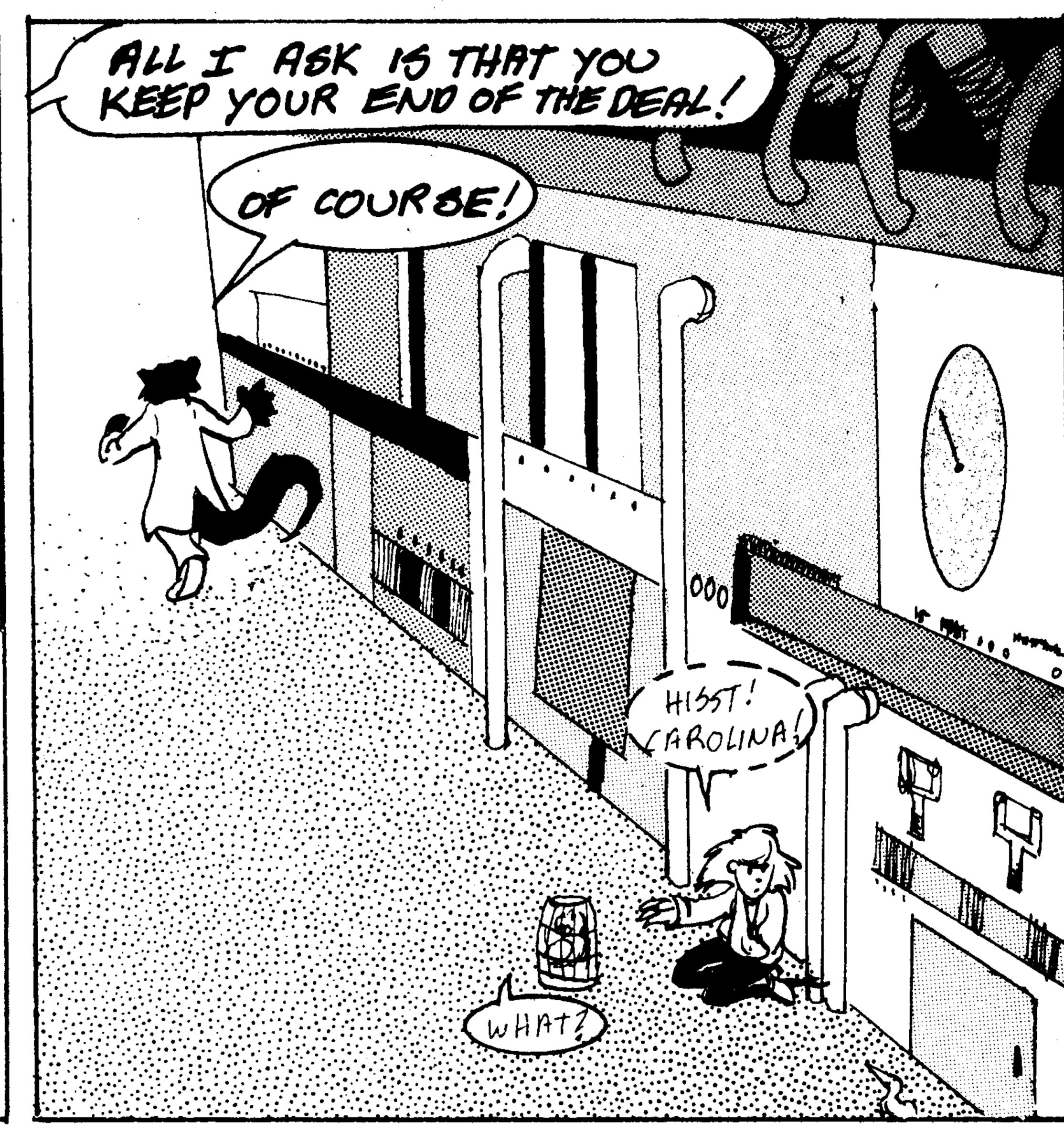




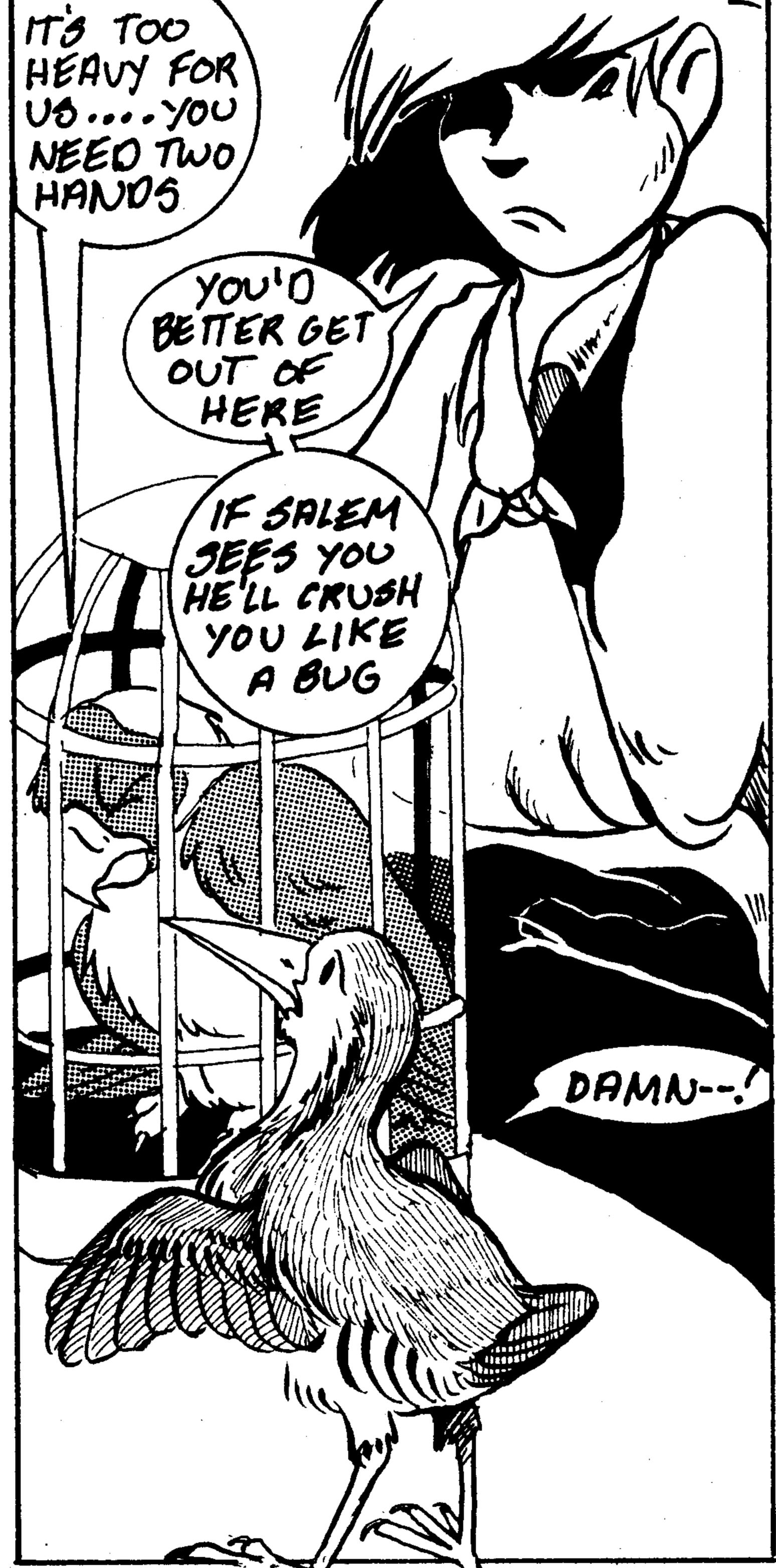


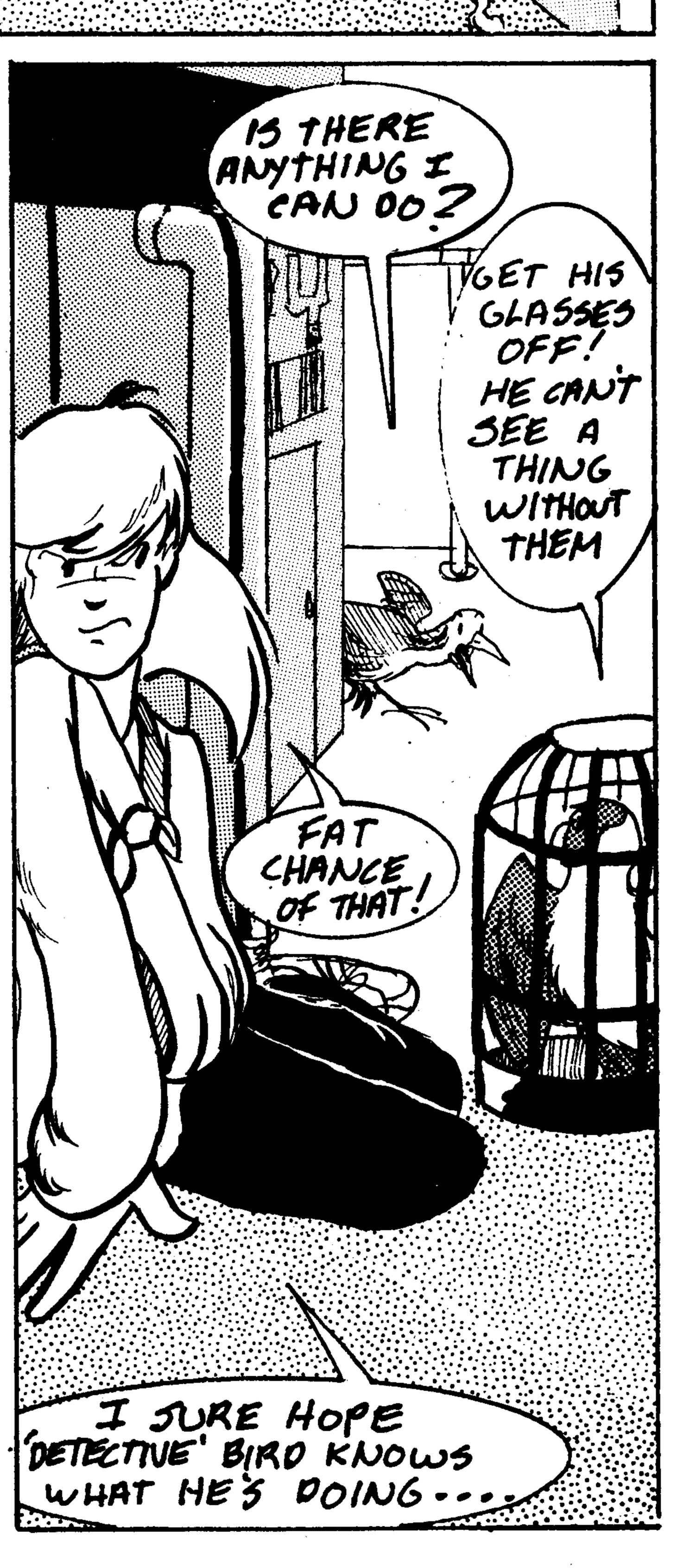


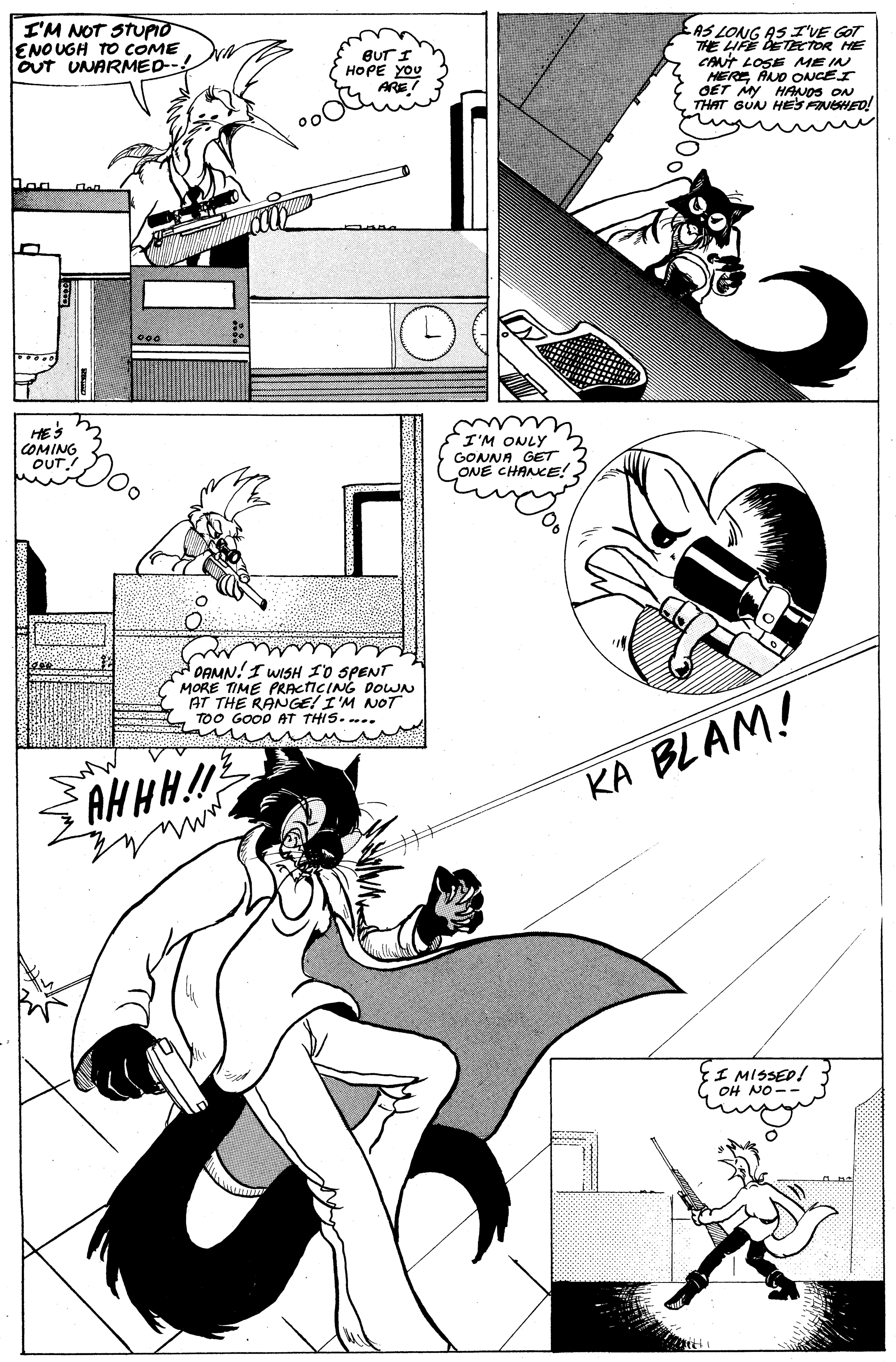






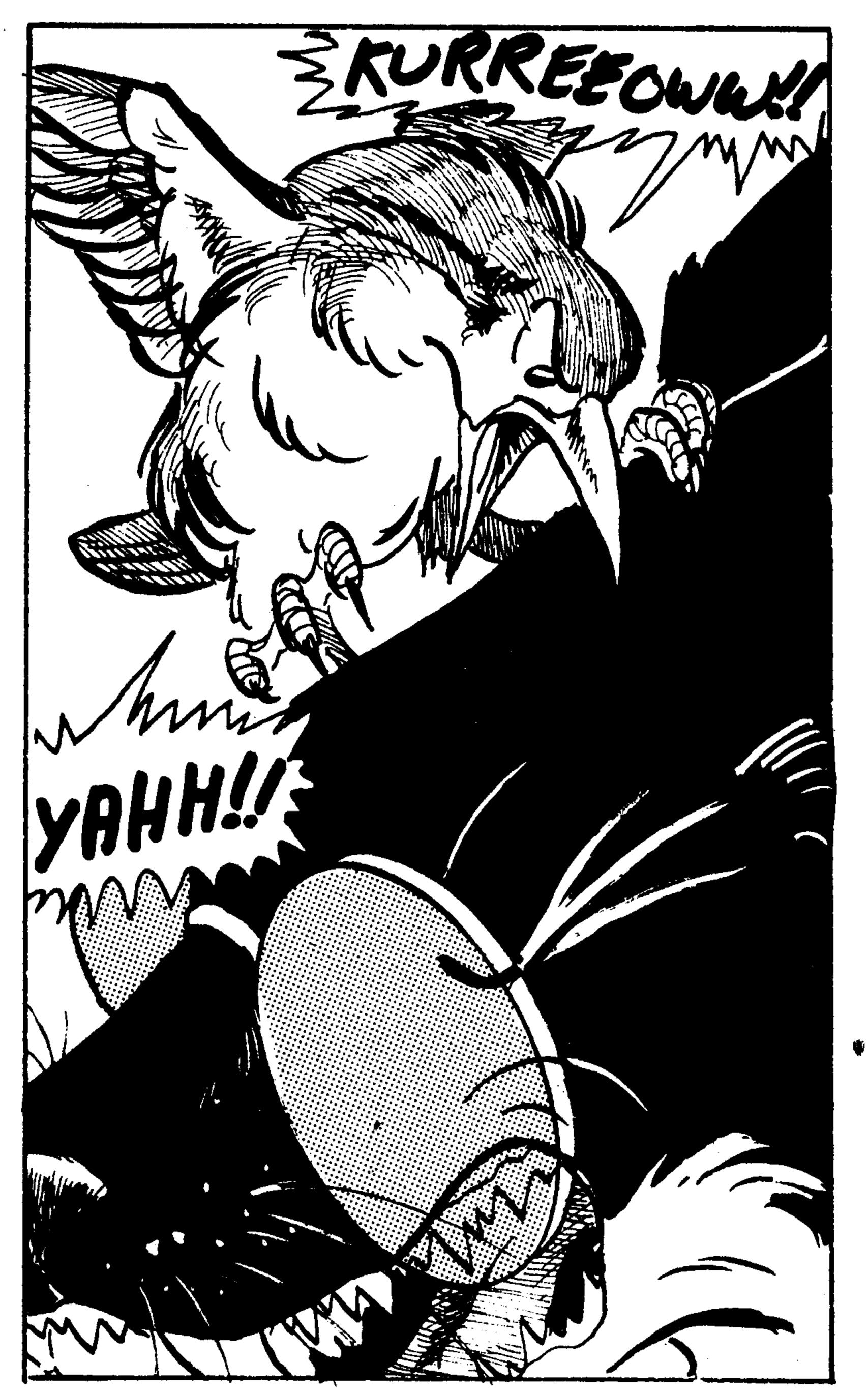


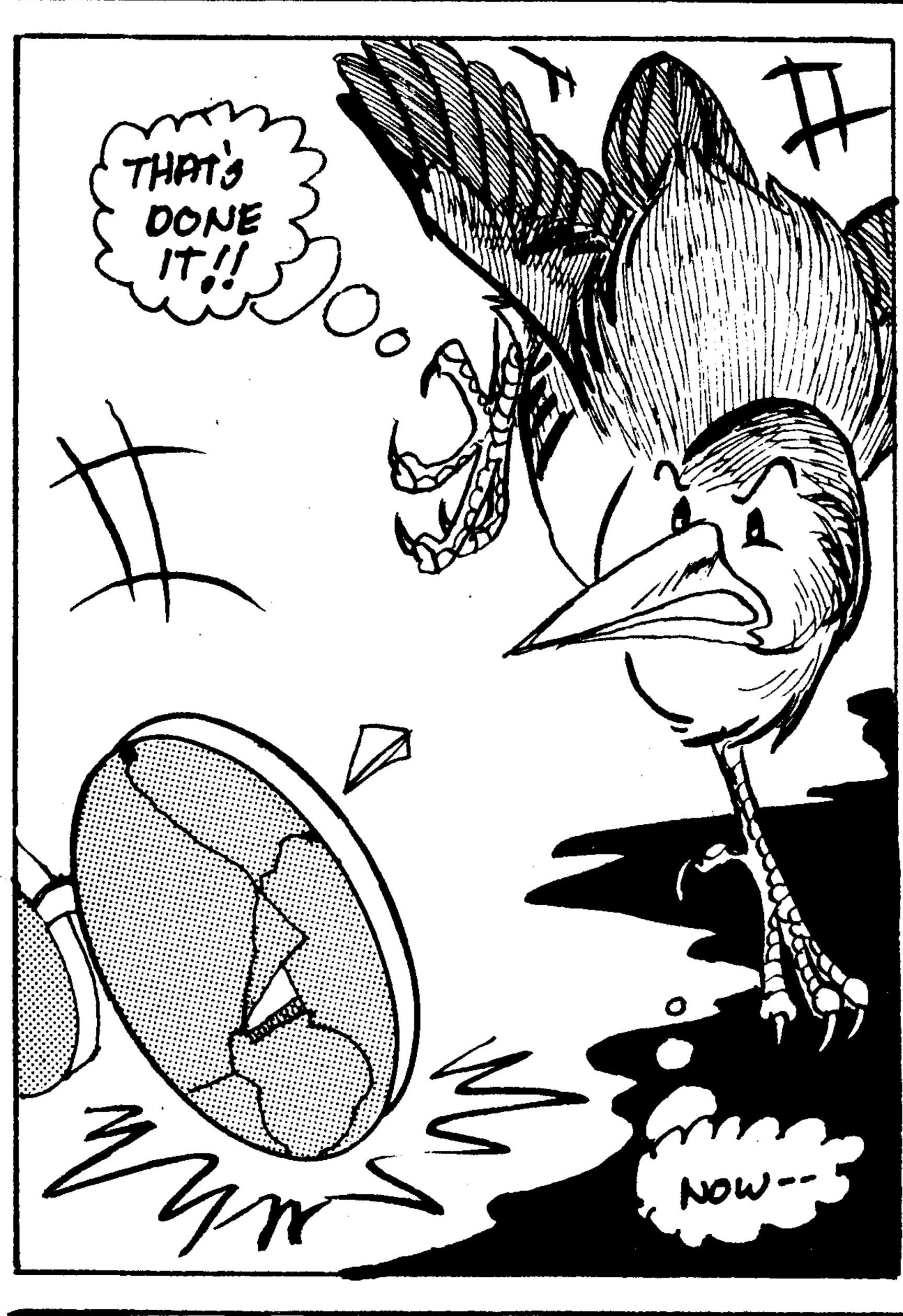


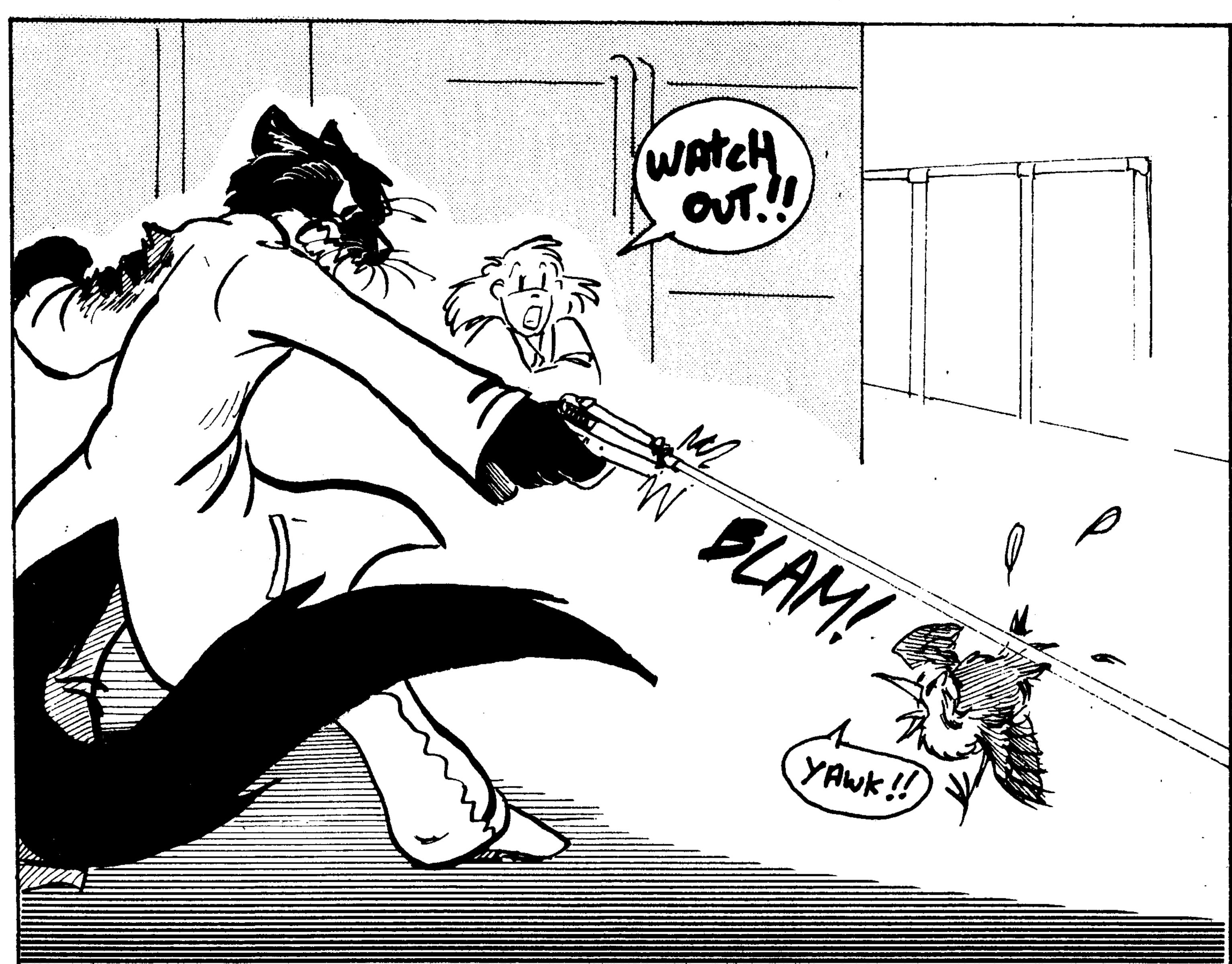




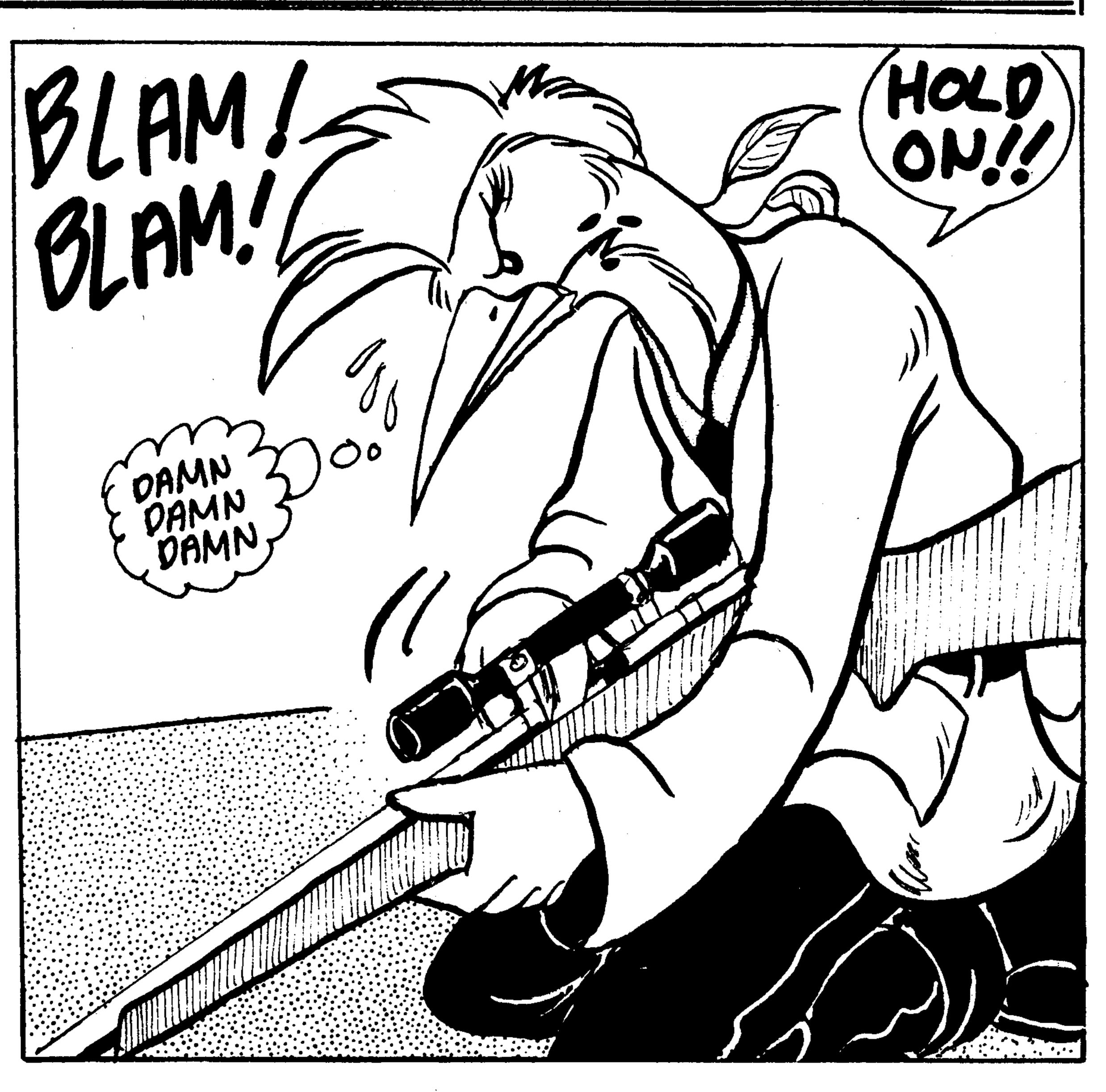


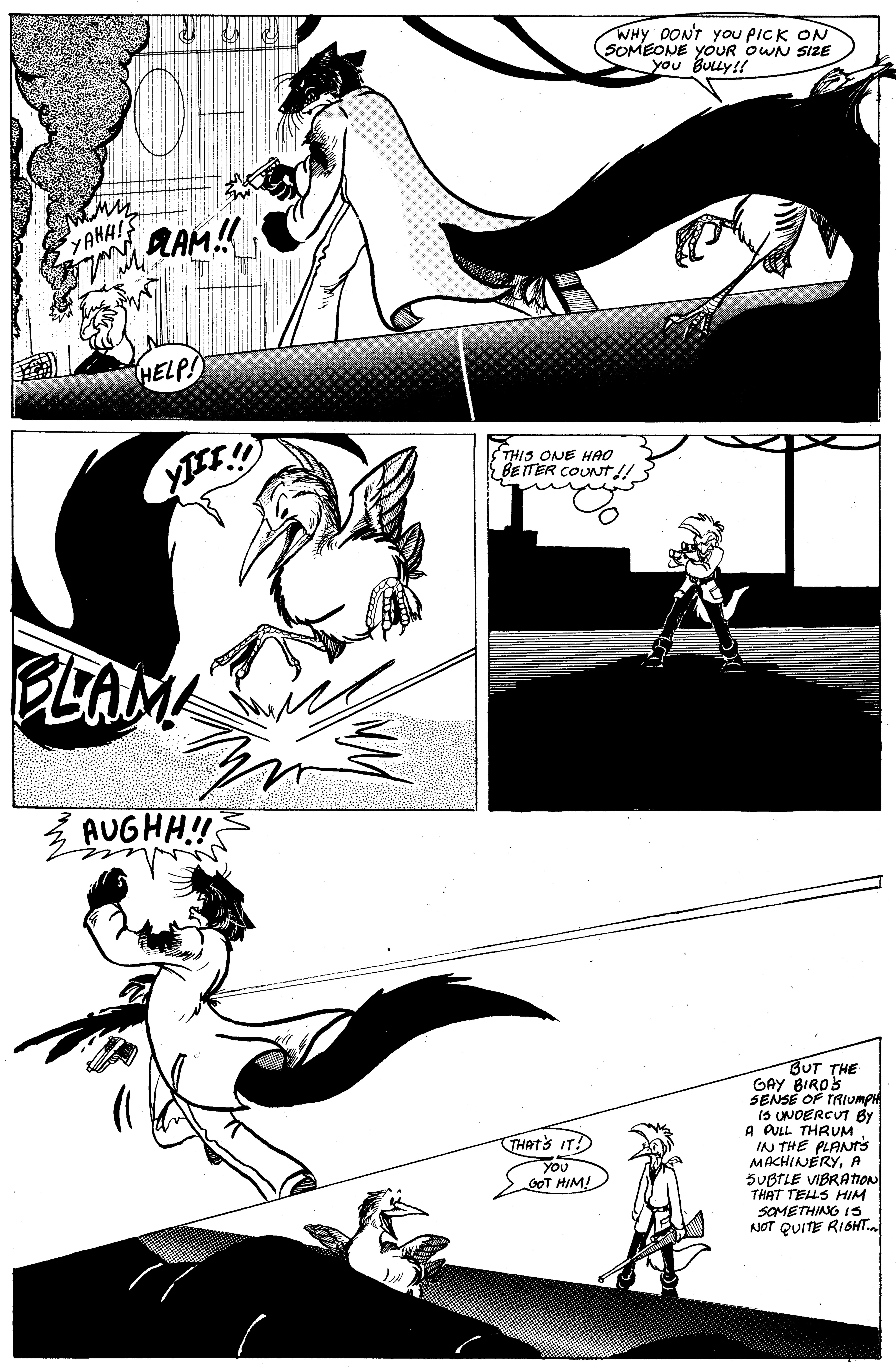


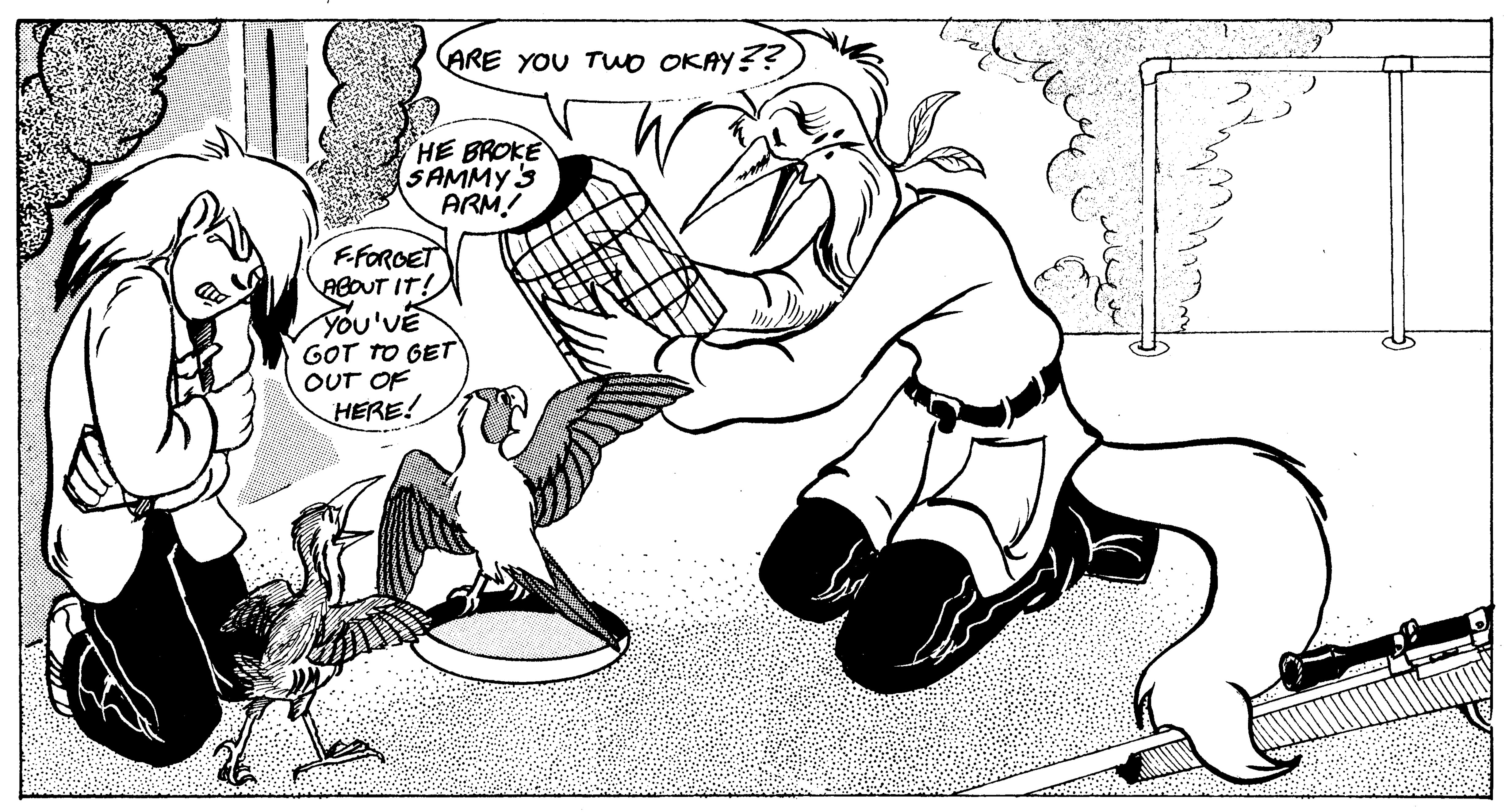




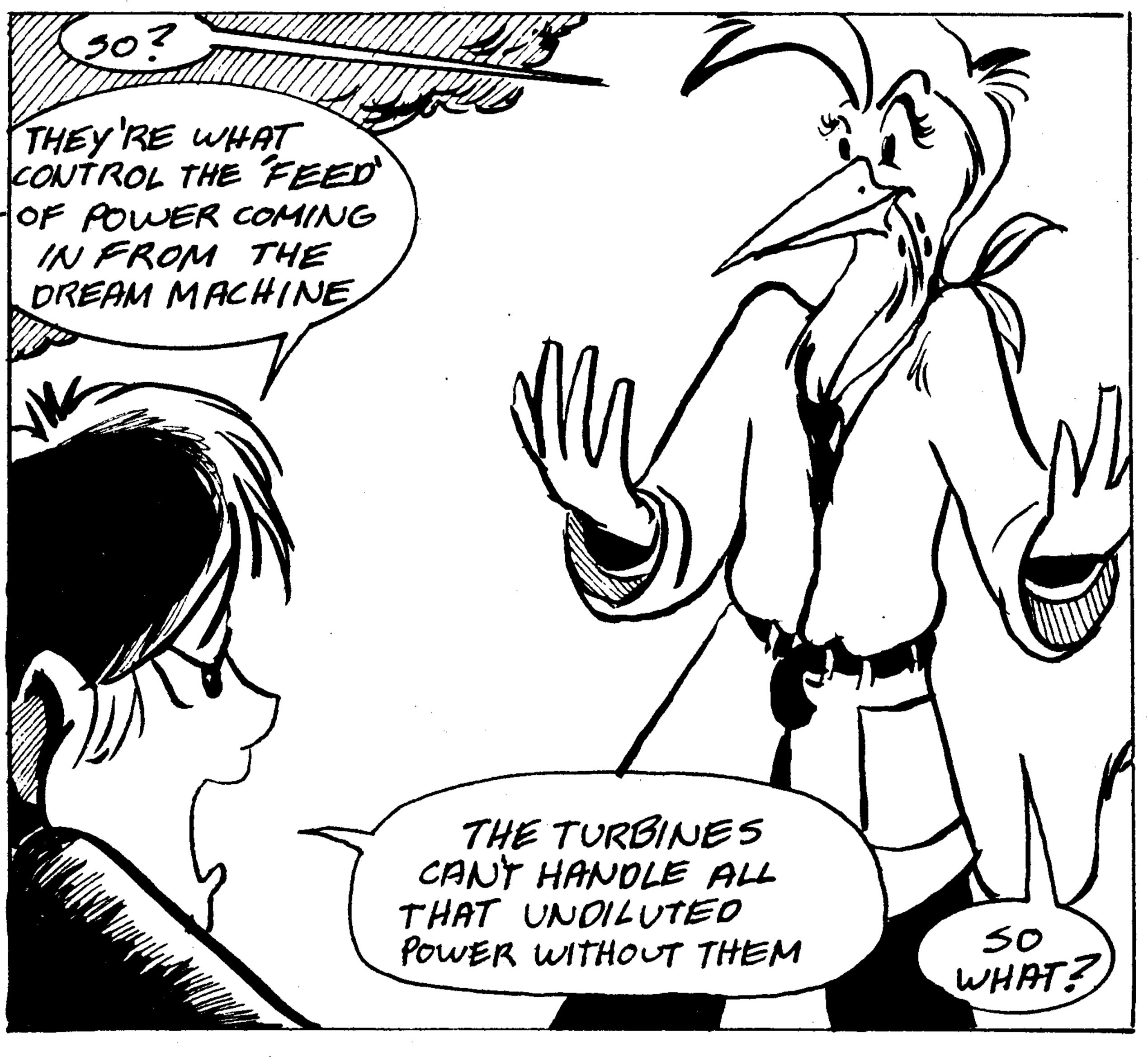


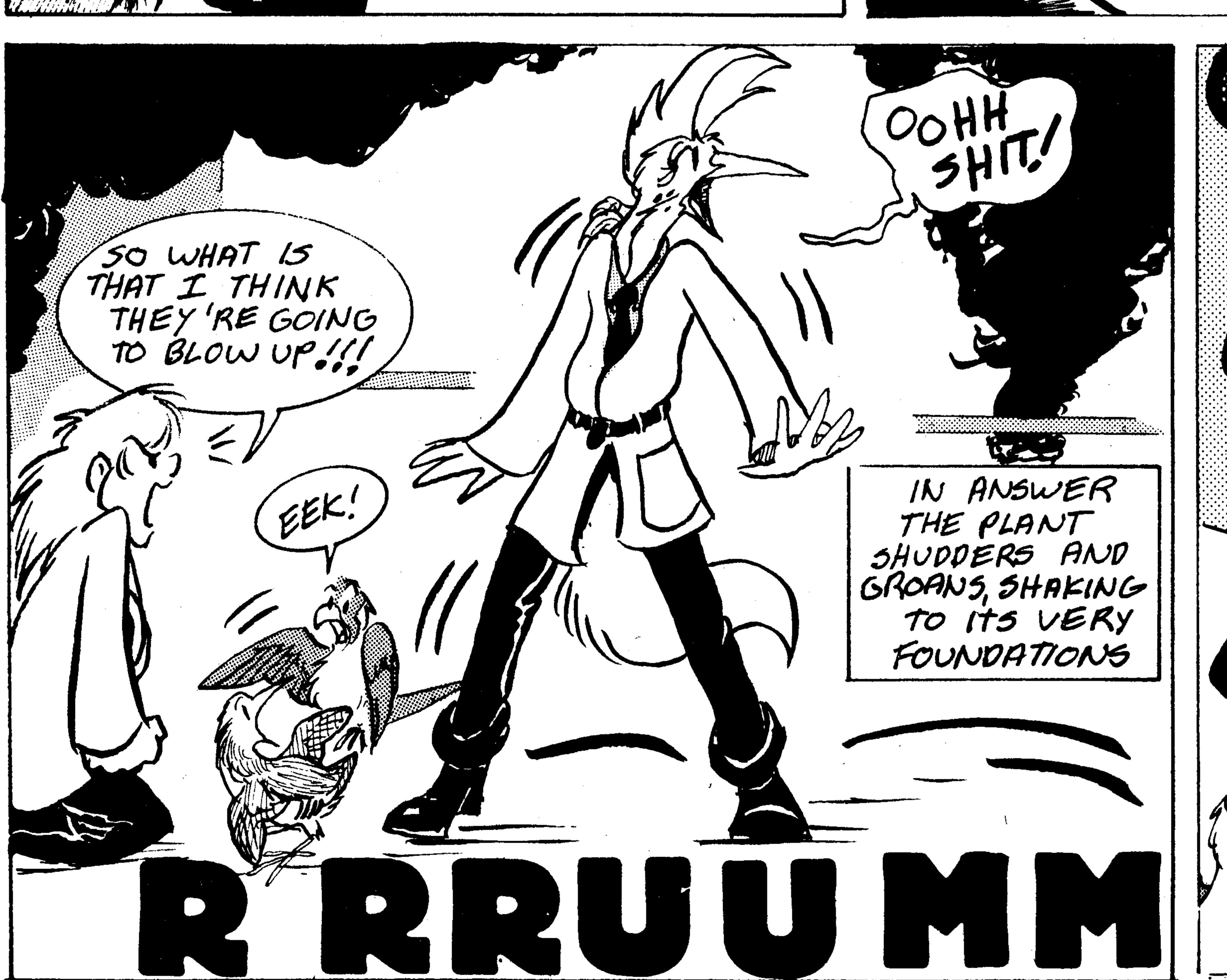






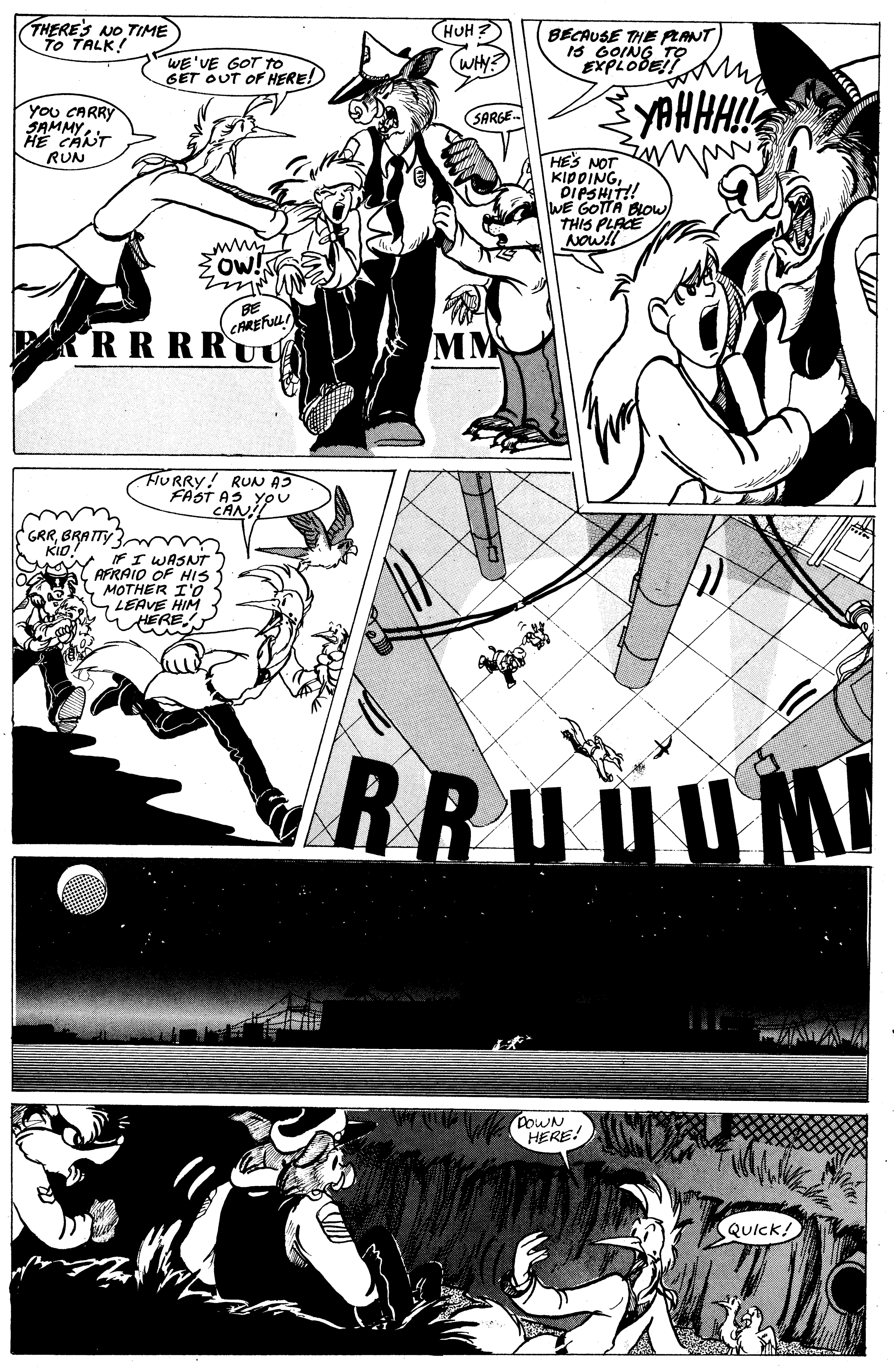


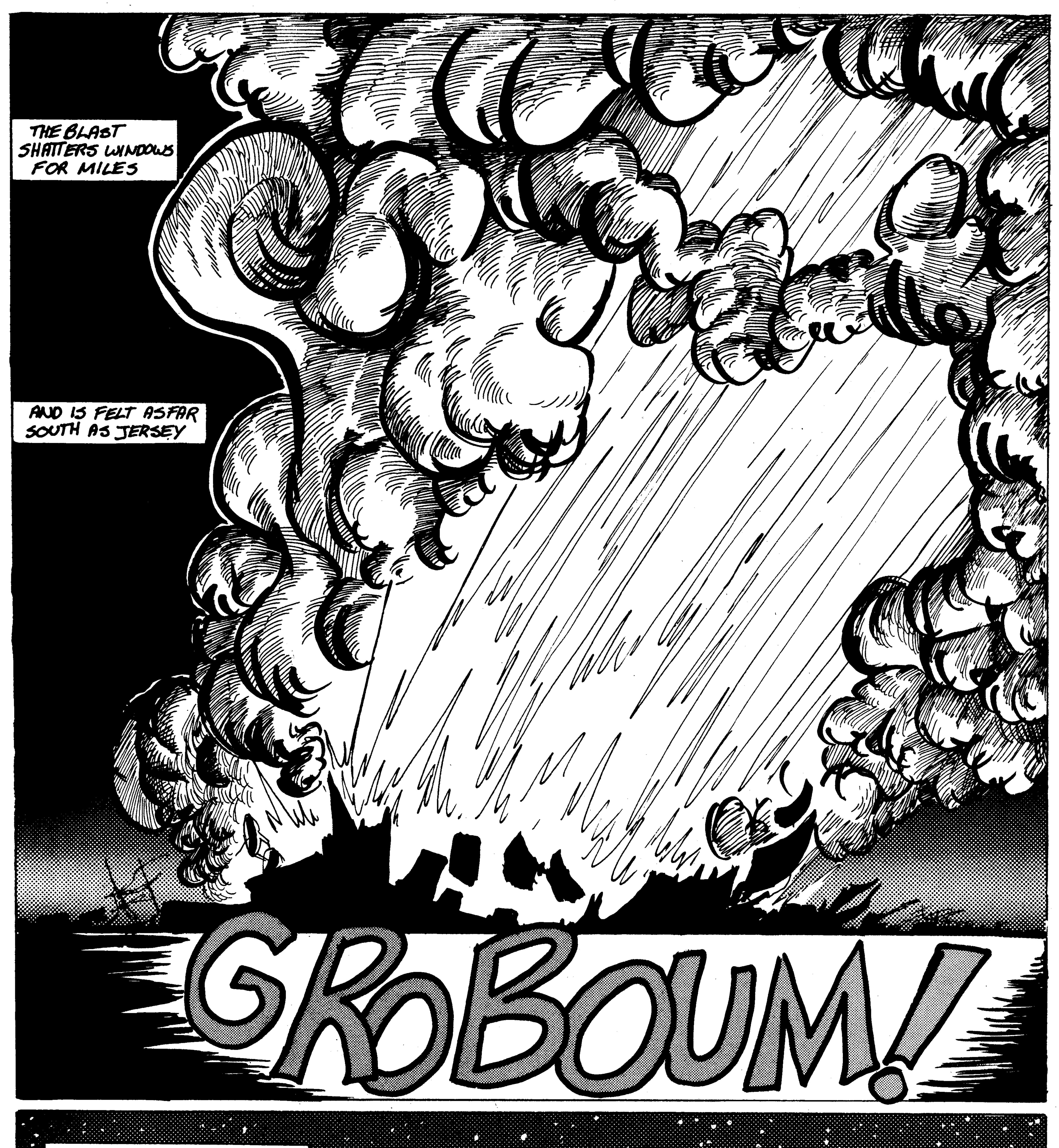


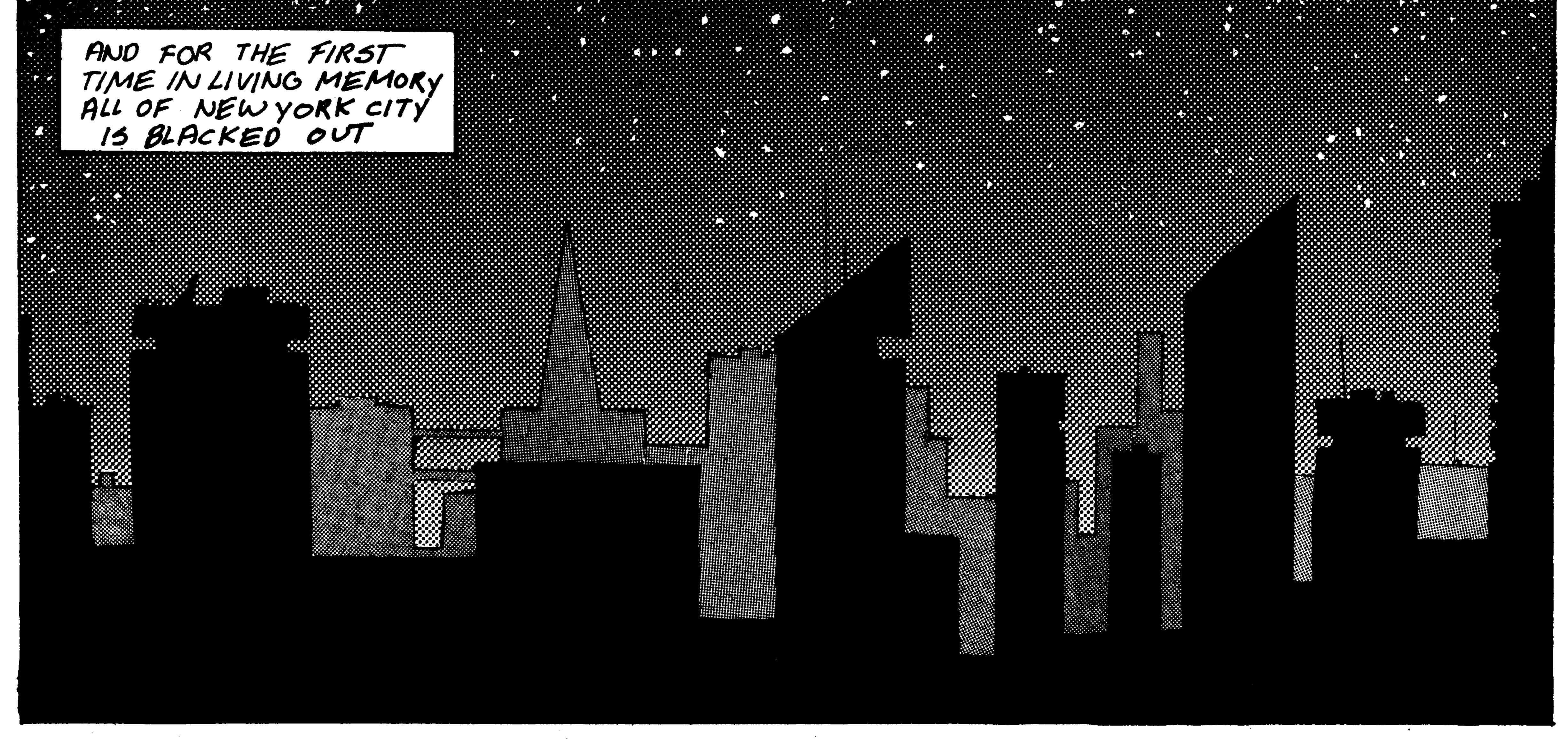


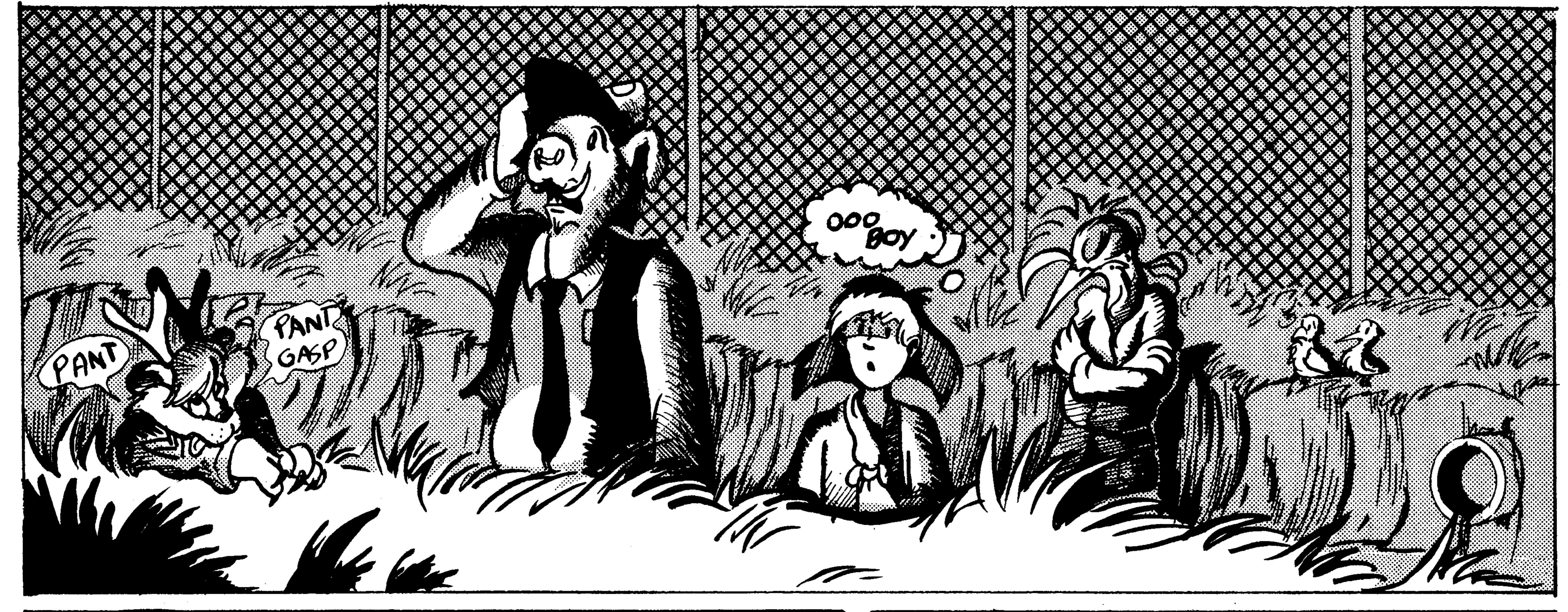








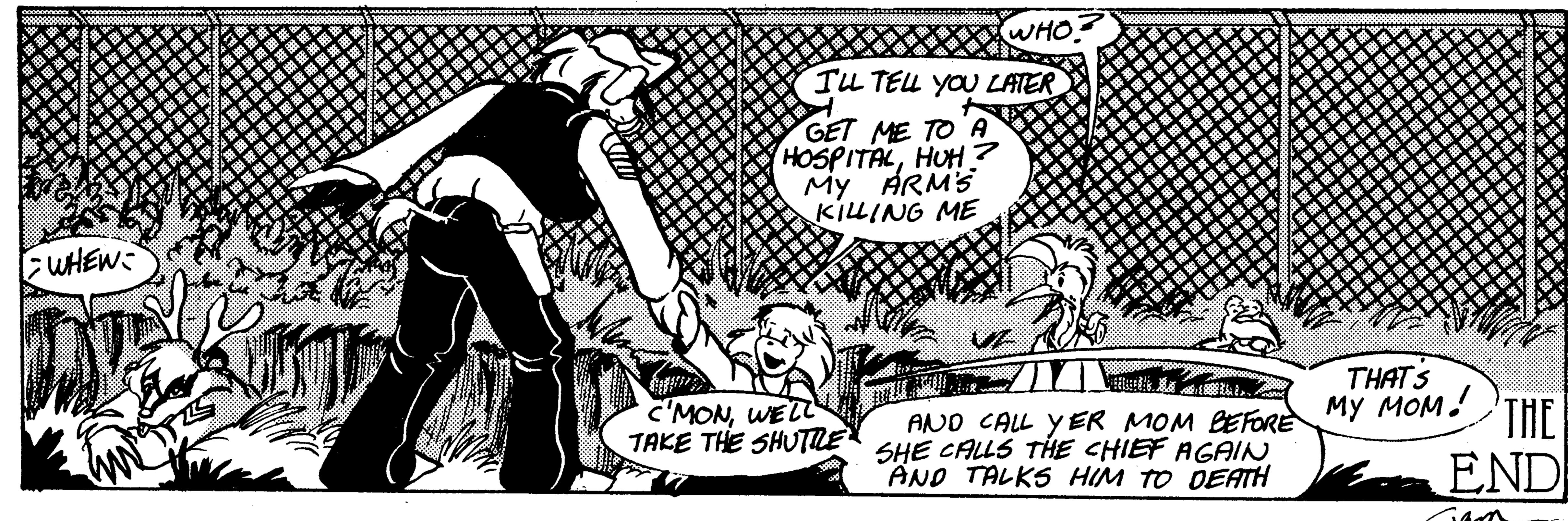




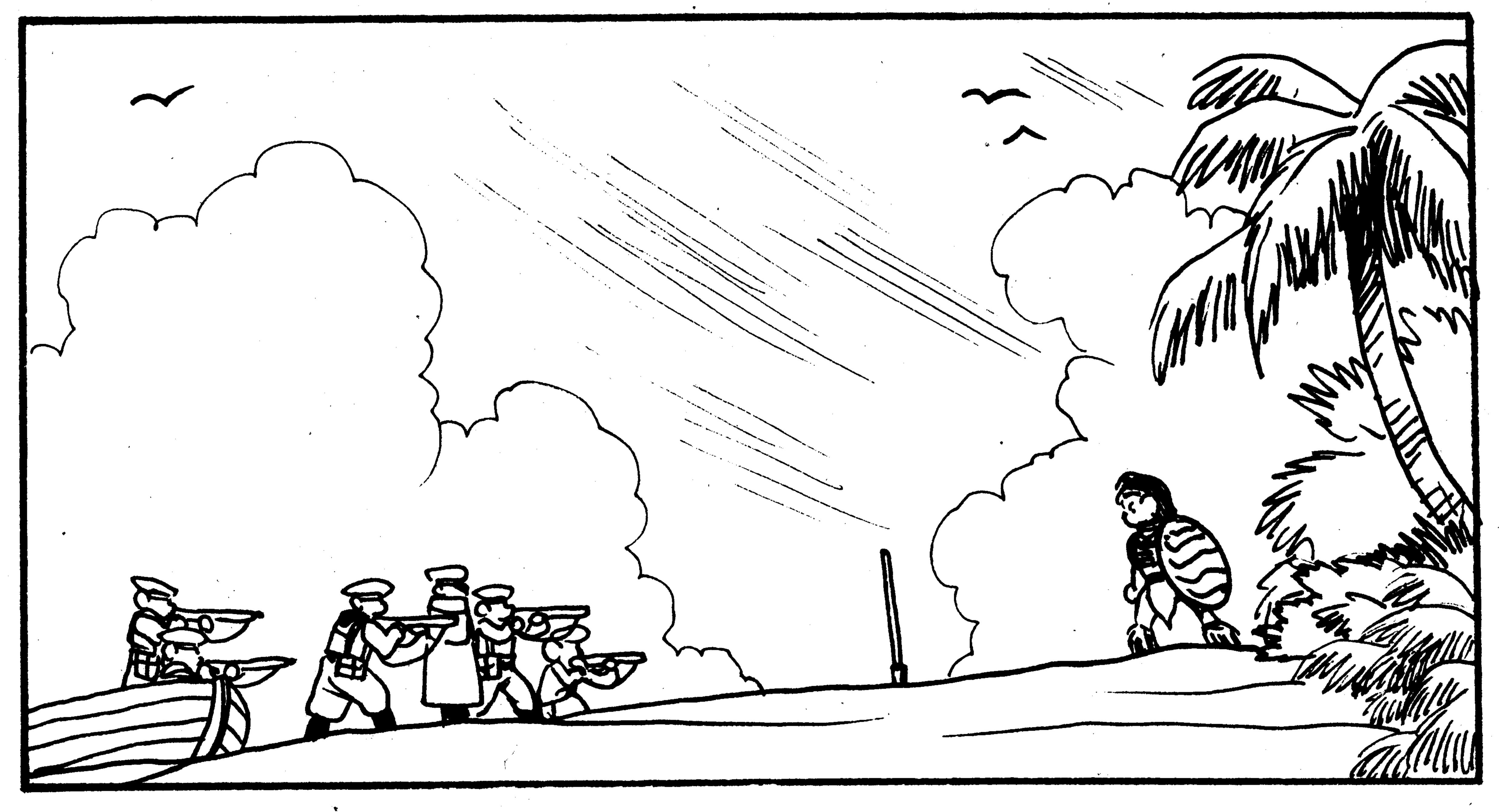






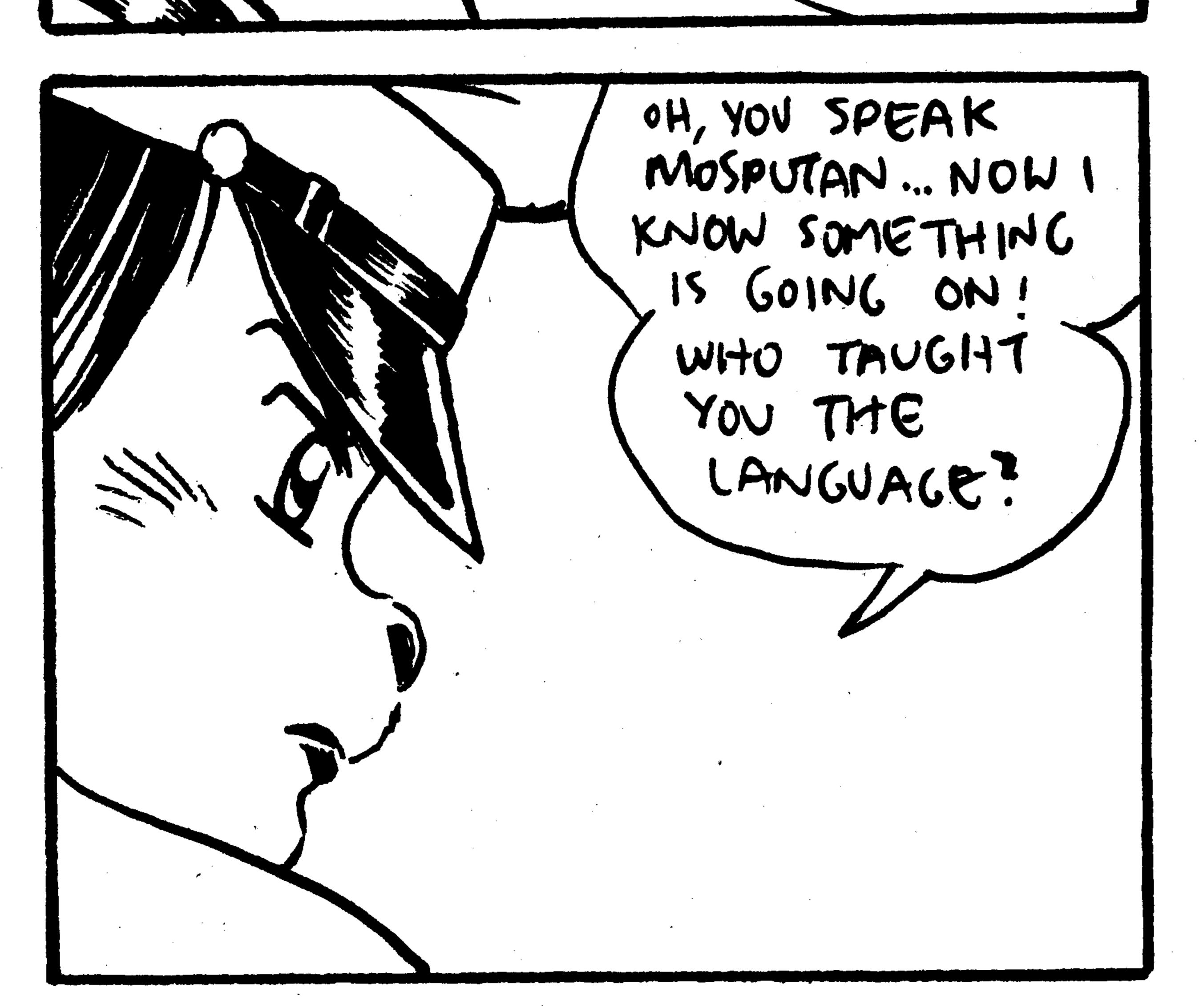






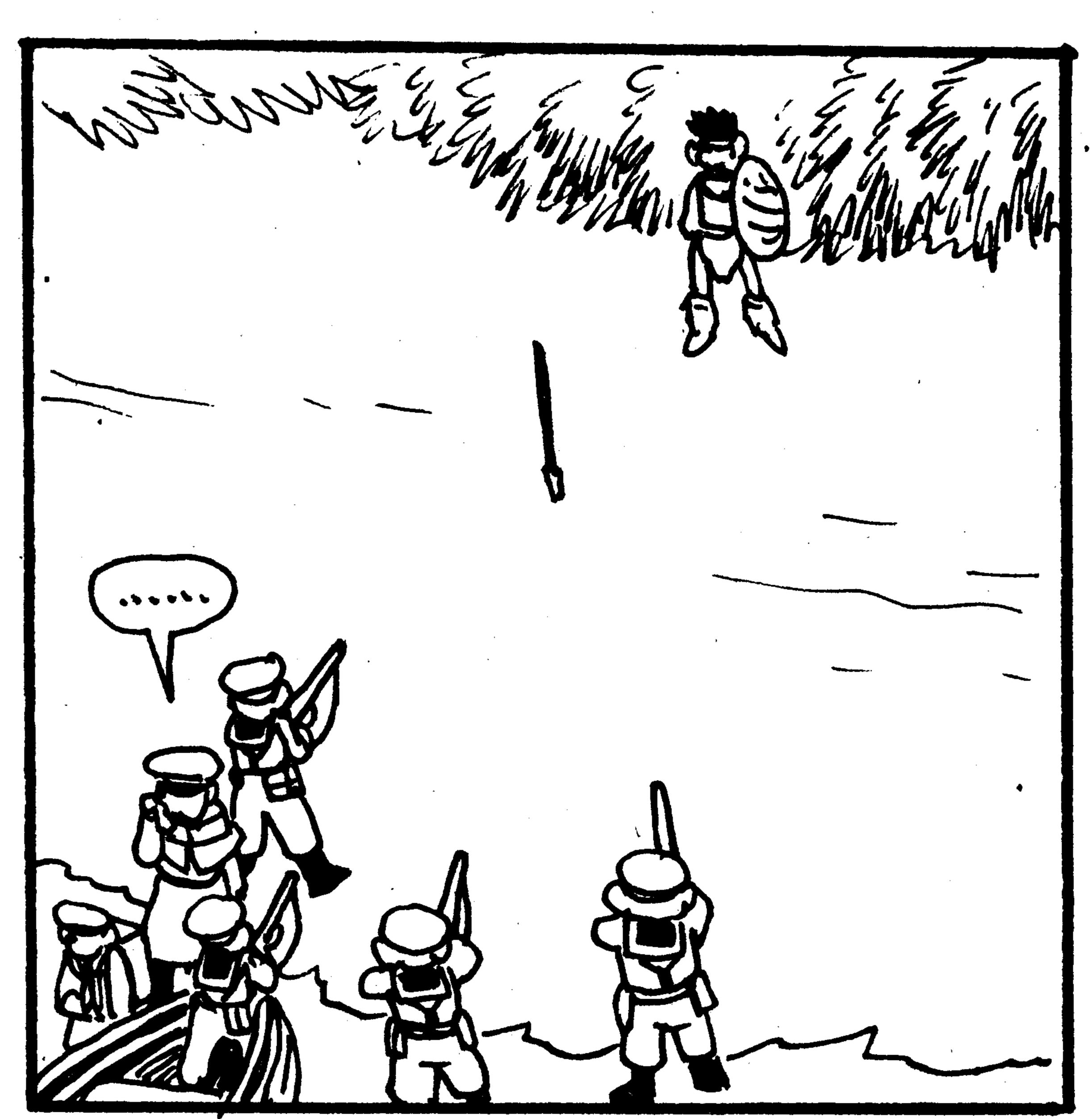




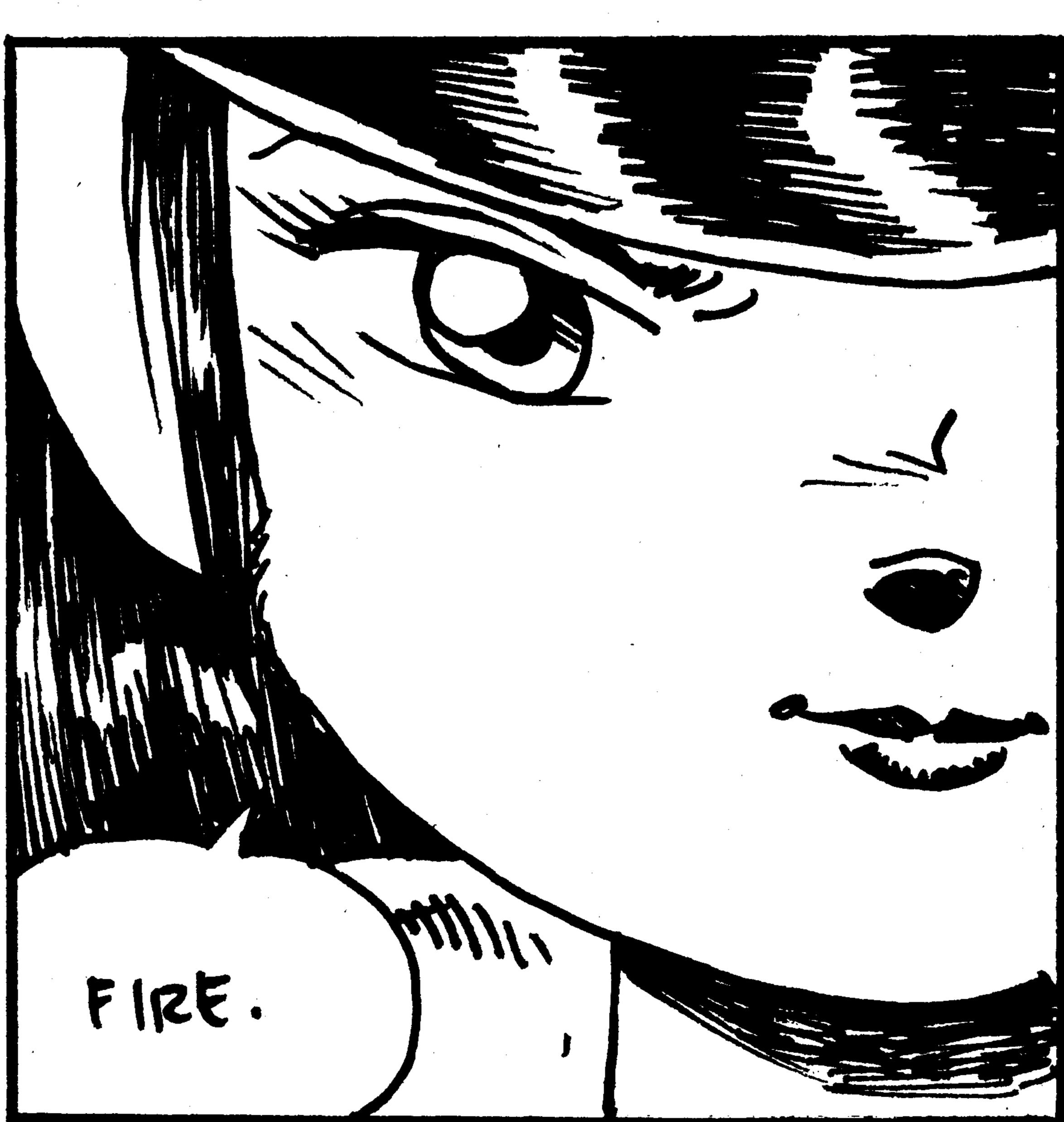


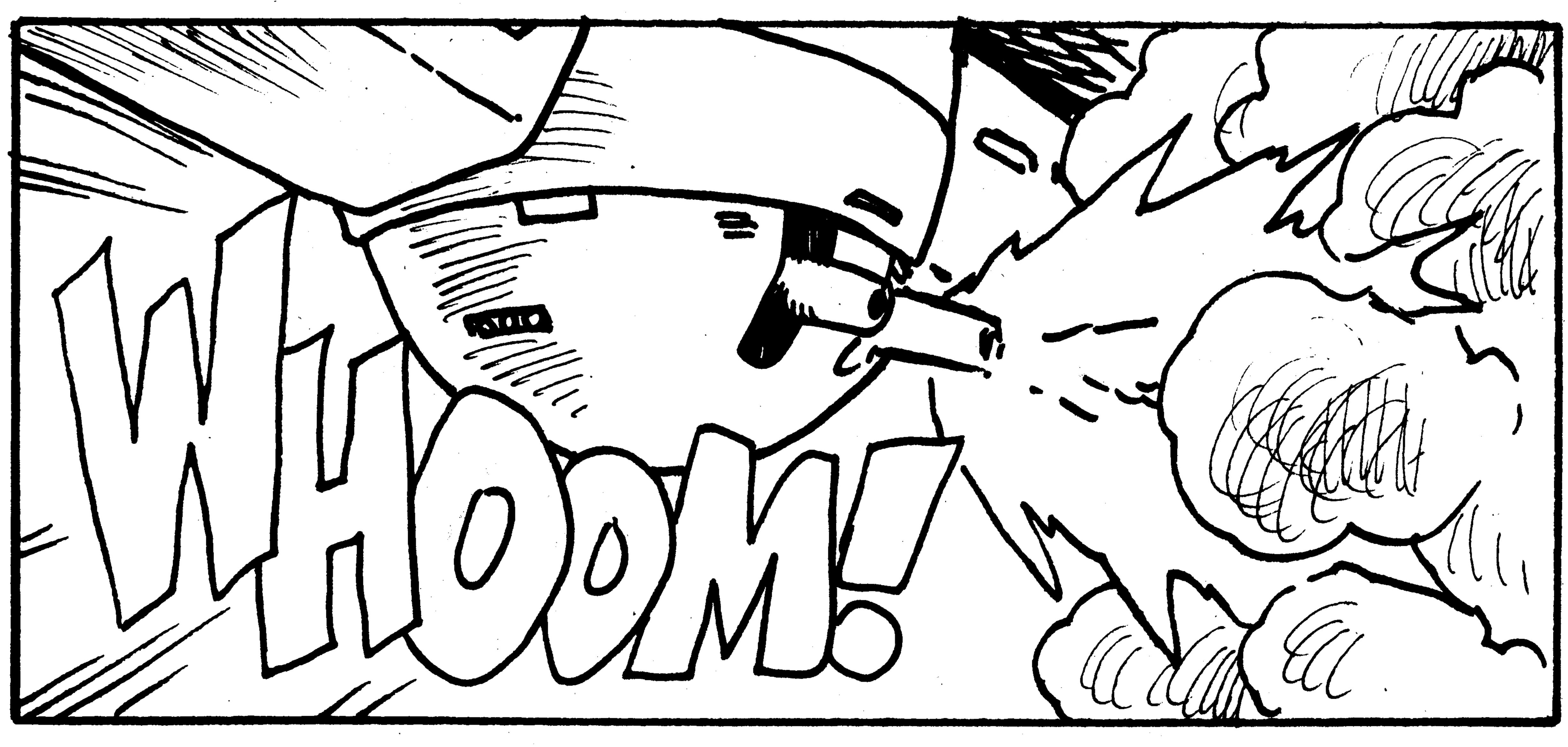


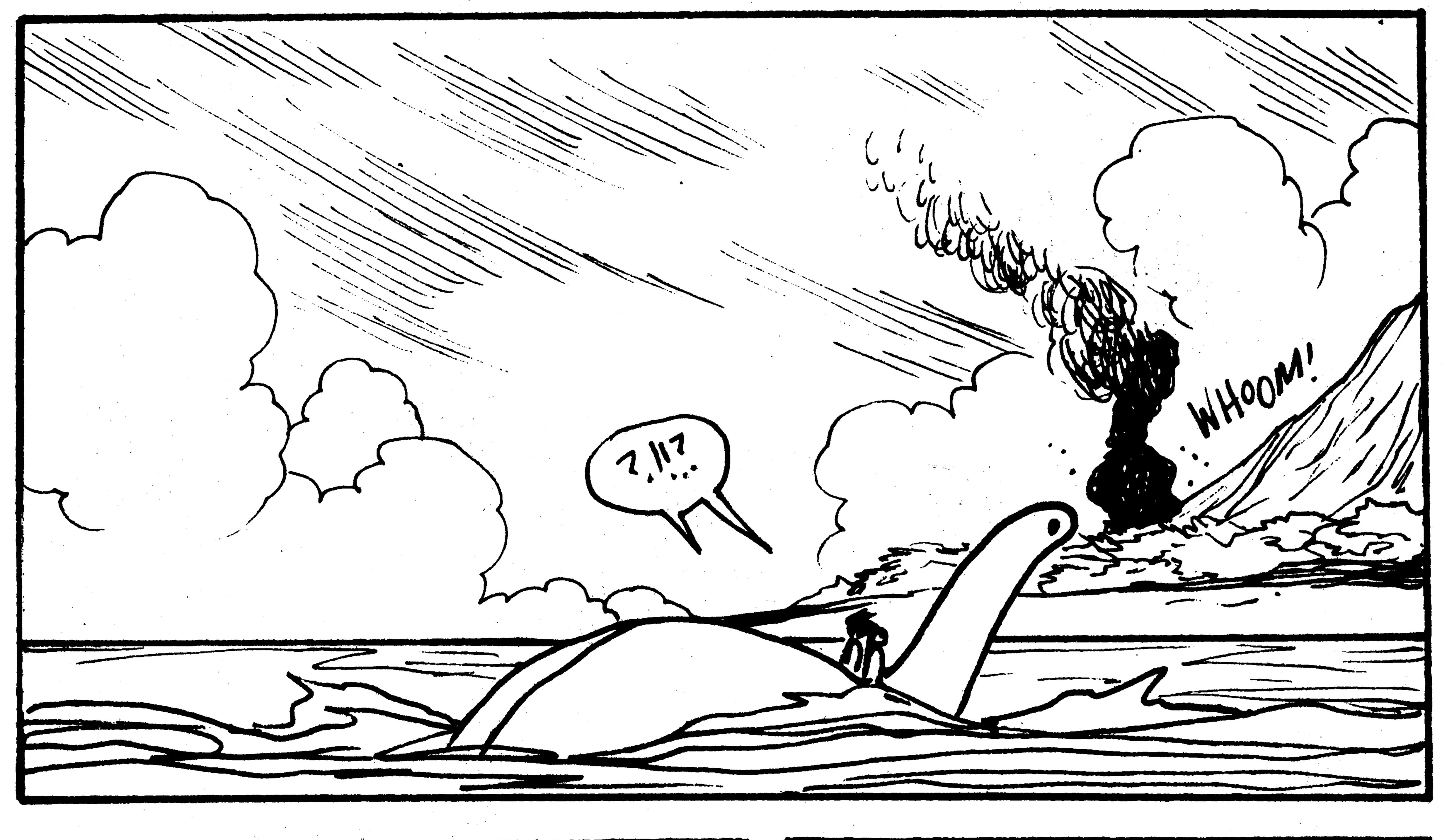








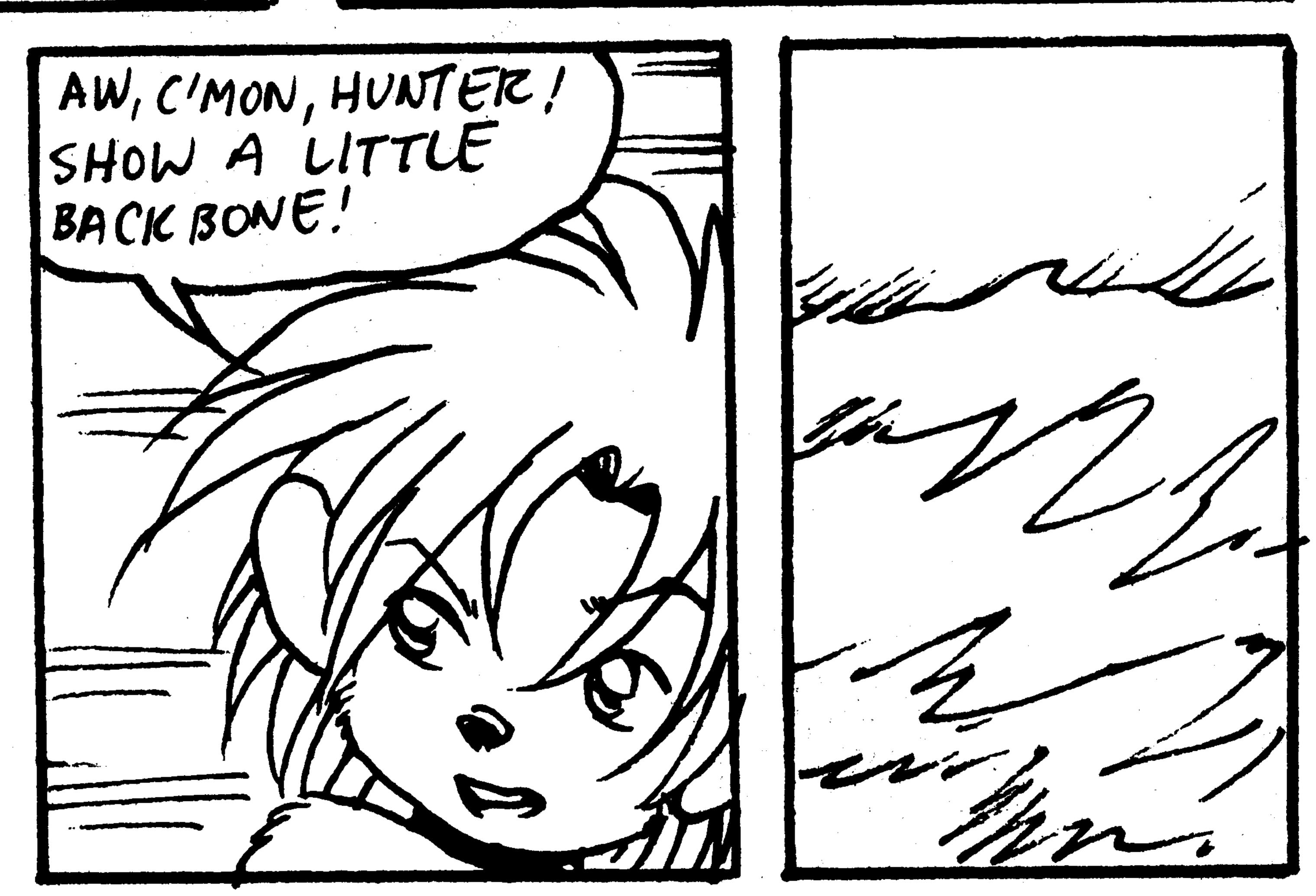










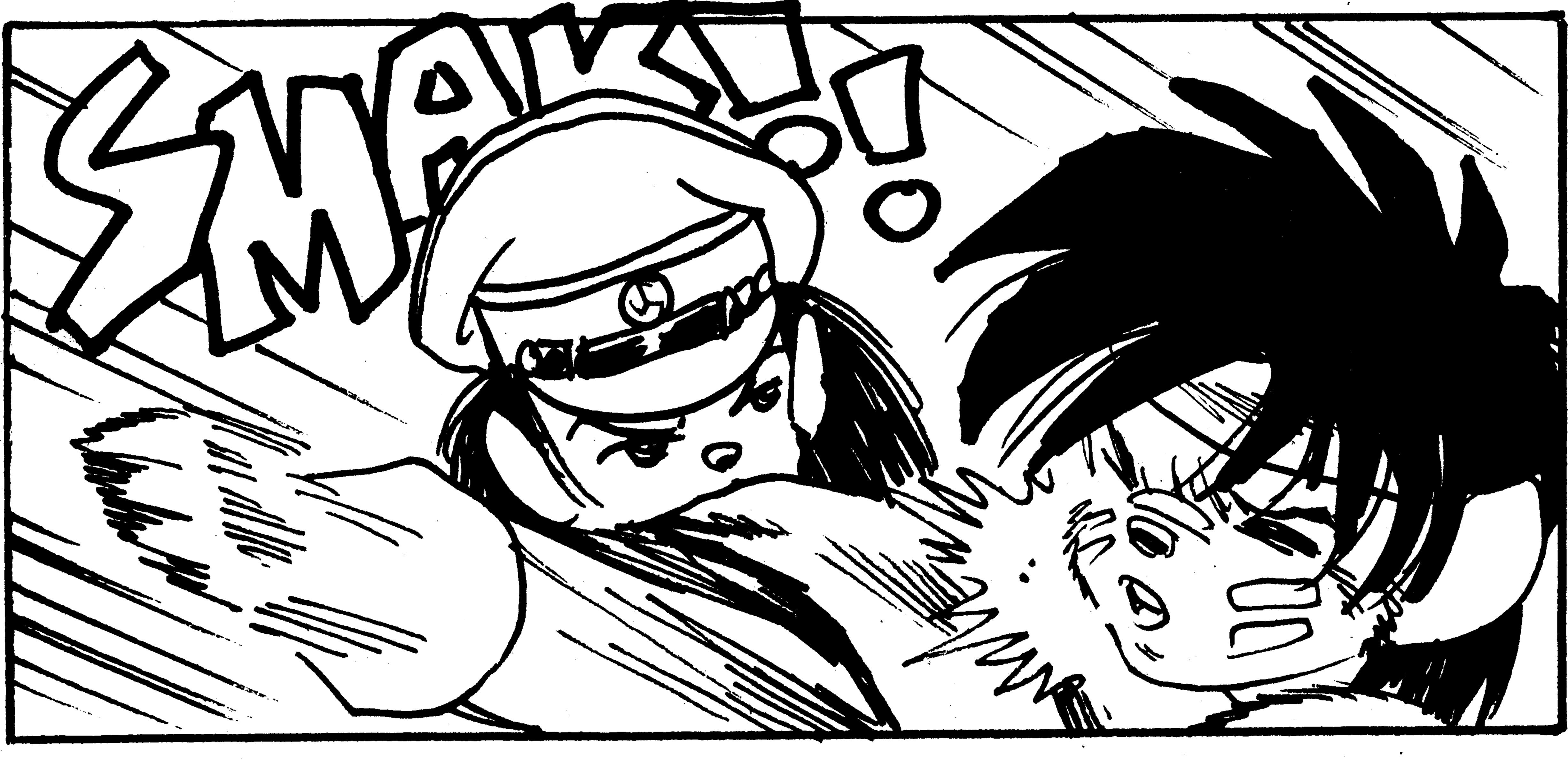
















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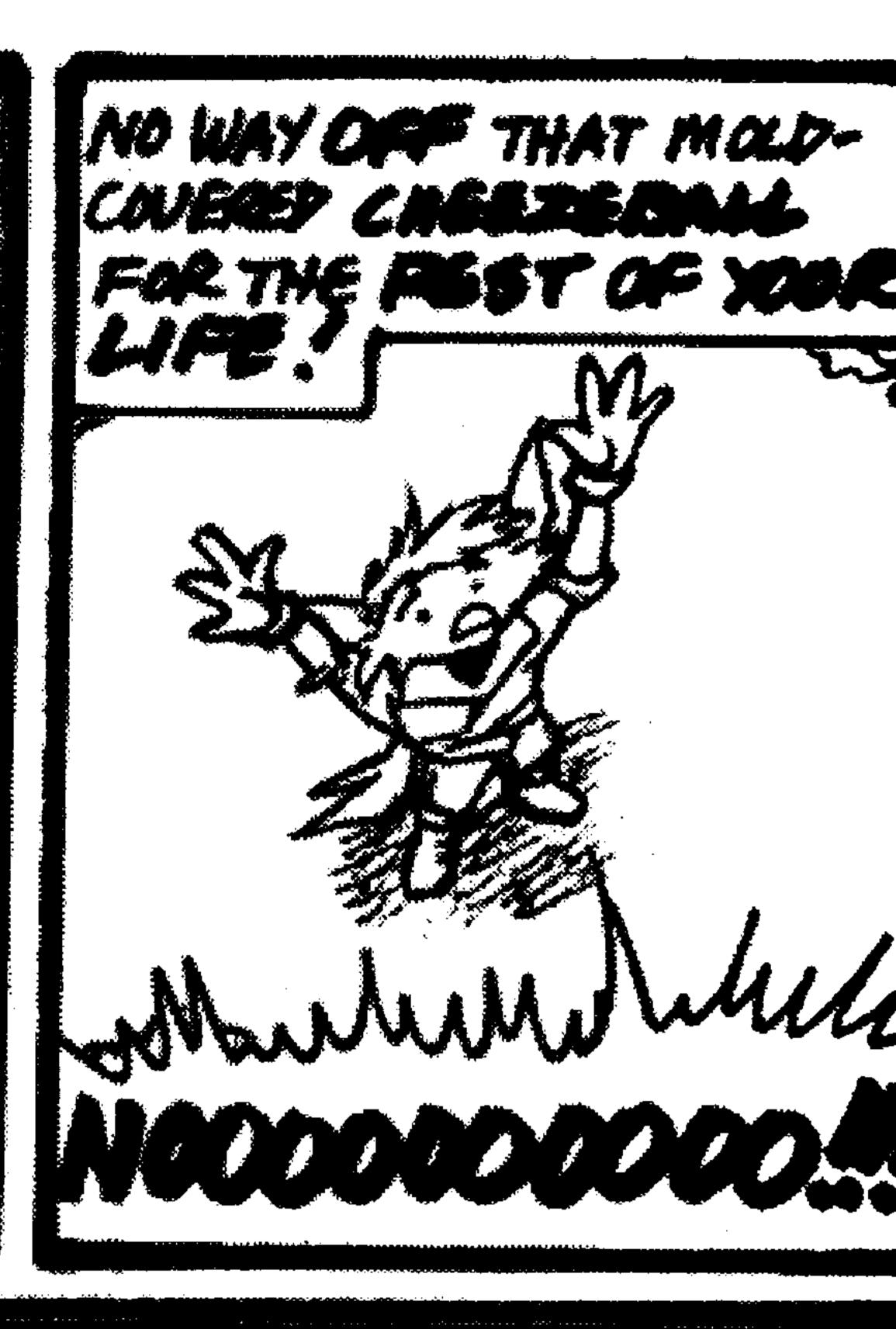






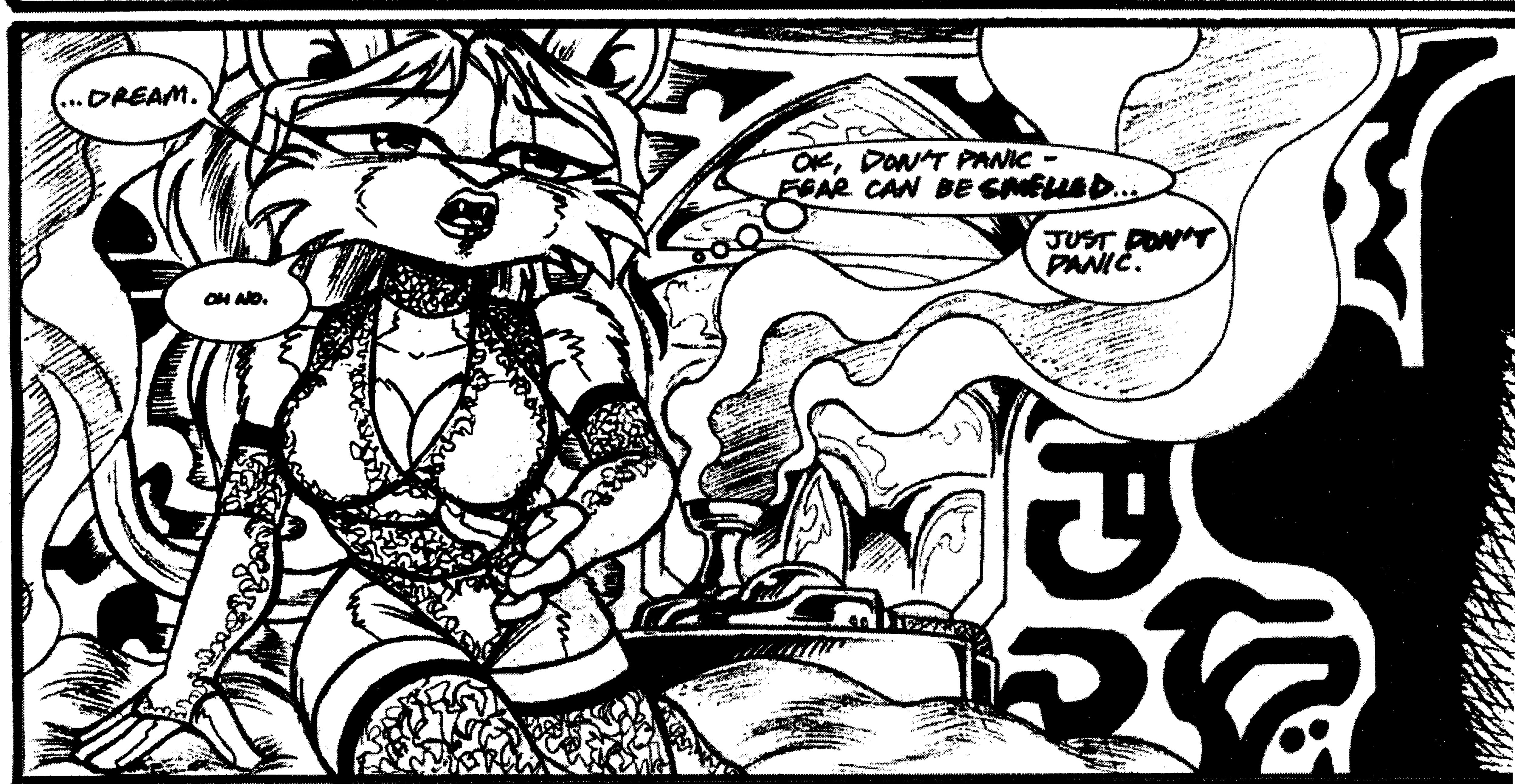






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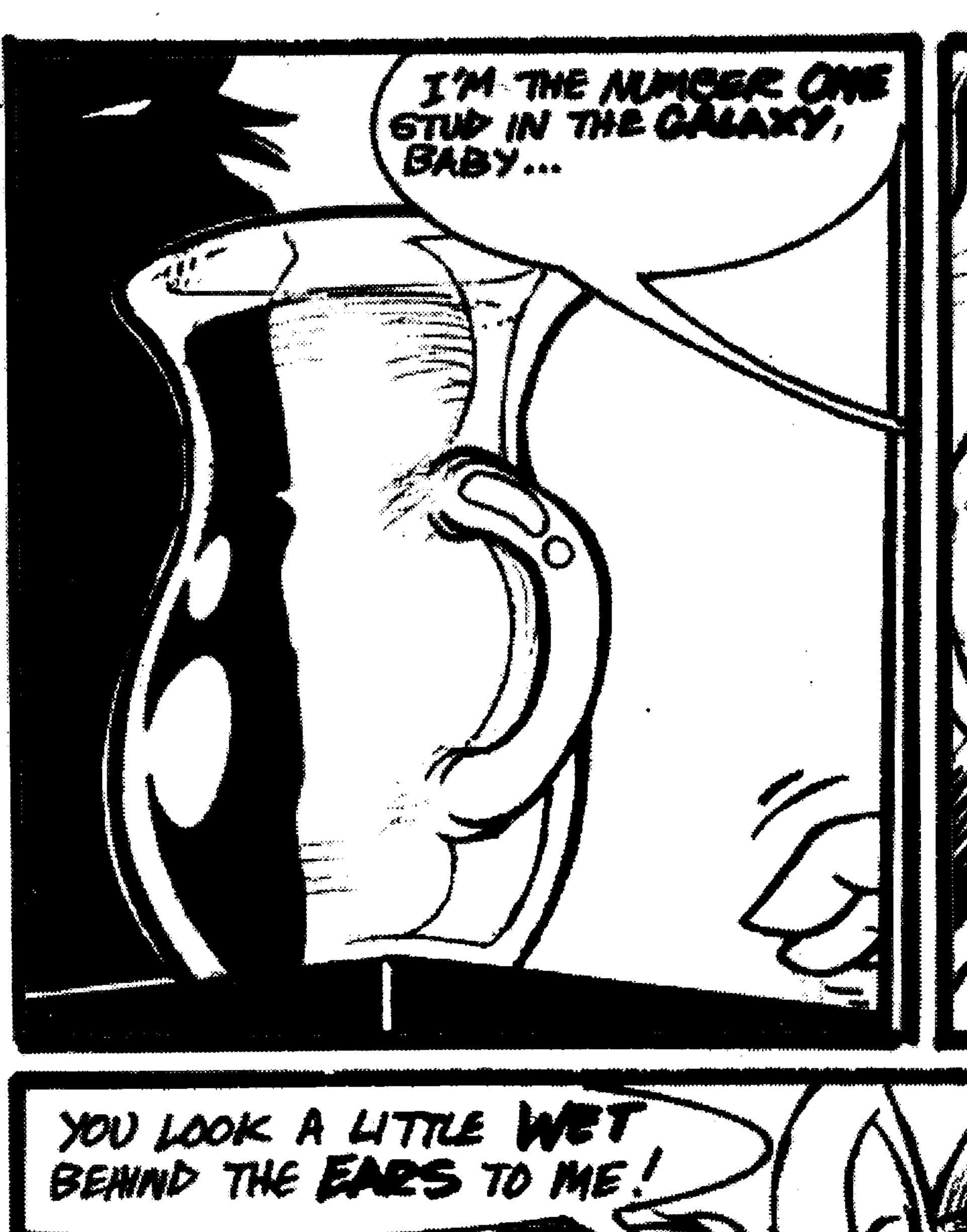
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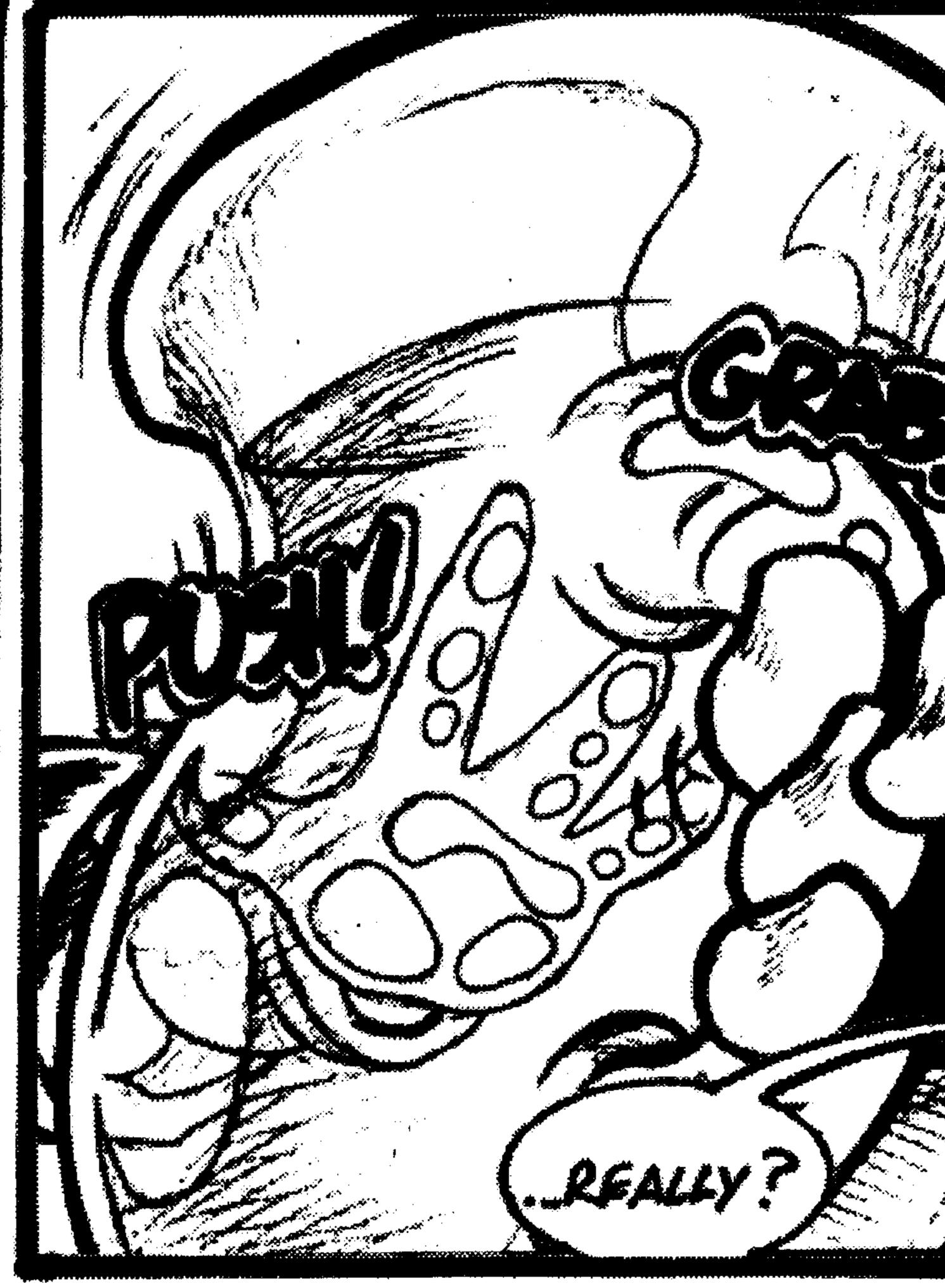


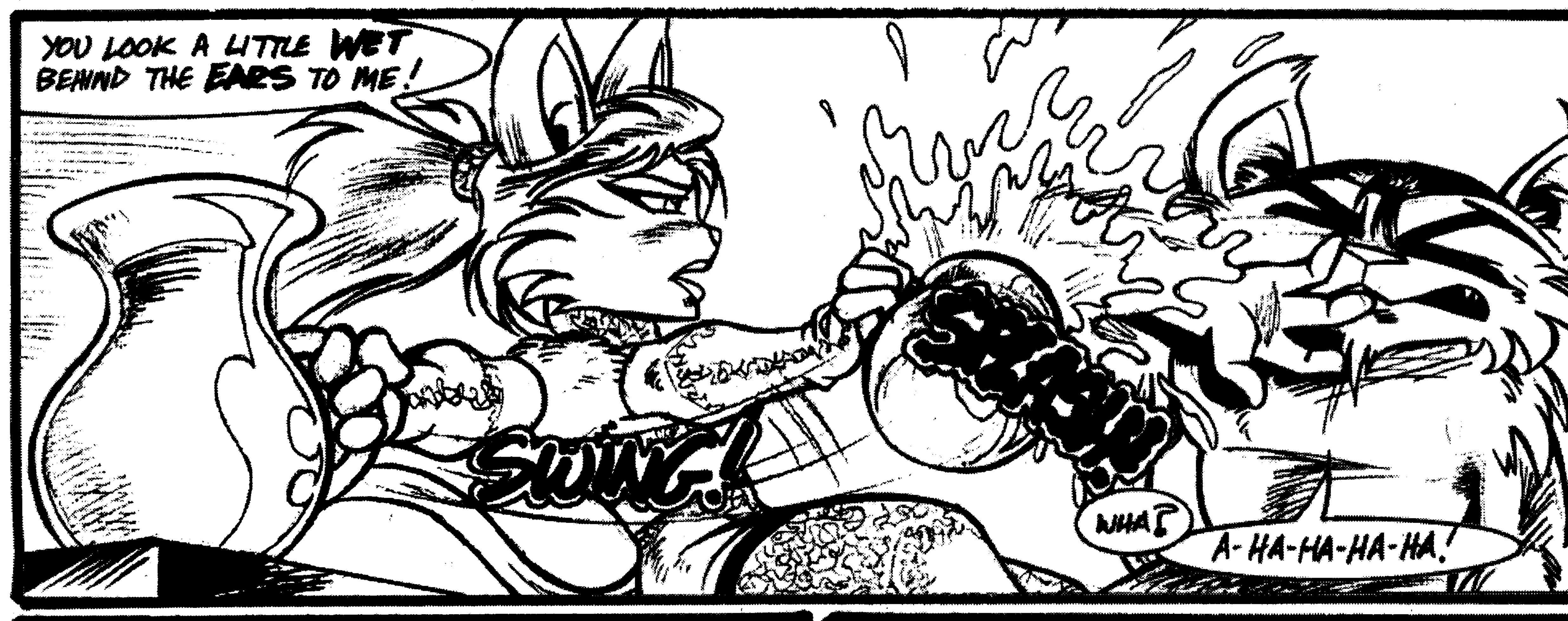




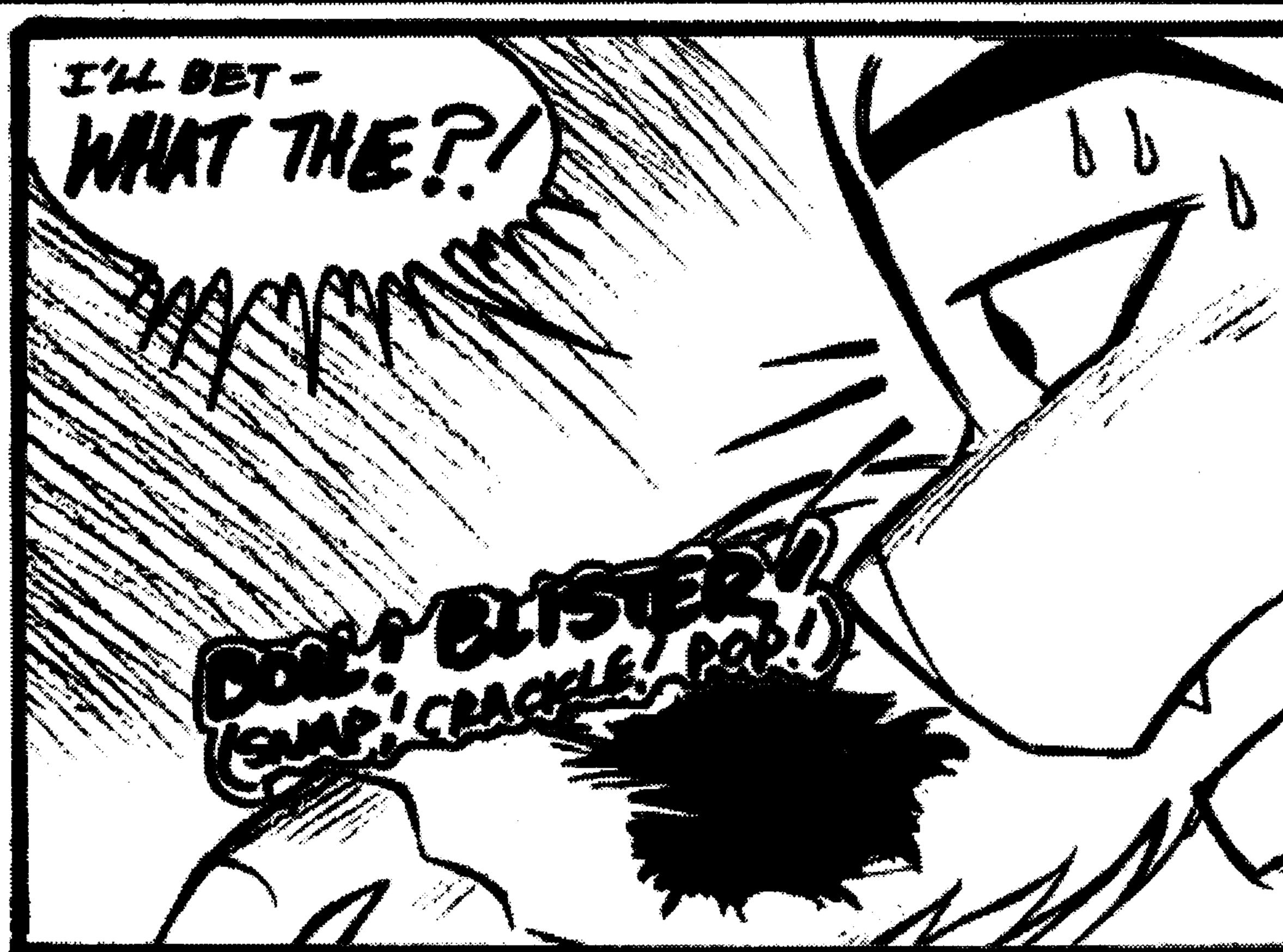




































NEXT THE: YO HO FRIGGIN HO!



COMMUNIQUE

LETTERS TO FURRLOUGH 7272 WURZBACH SUITE 204 SAN ANTONIO, TX, 78240 elinwink@aol.com

Lucky us! We have a huge letter from AP letterhack-parexcellence, Philip Cohen! After a long absence, he's once again gracing our pages with his well-thought-out opinions! Due to the length of his letter, it will be continued next issue, as I'm pretty sure no one would want to read 4 point type!--EW Dear Penguins:

When I fall behind in a task, I tend to put it off until I have the opportunity to deal with it at leisure, an opportunity that never comes. So it is with my AP letterhacking; I don't seem to have written you since March 14, 1995. About time I got a few words off. Rather than put myself into delay mode again because the backlog is too daunting, I'll do it piecemeal; for starters, Furrlough. I realize that comments on issues a year and a half old will be a little stale, but the rules are, I gotta write them or I can't restart. And if you don't publish them, well, fine.

The two major stories in this period deserve paragraphs of their own.

Mary Hanson-Roberts' "Here Comes a Candle" (parts 11-19, in issues 27-35) is certainly the best story you've ever published, including Albedo, with a seemingly endless series of clever riffs on nursery rhymes, fairy tales, and the French Revolution. Why in the world isn't it a graphic novel yet? It's better than 95% of the trade-paperback 'product' out there, including most of AP's books, and I think it has all the makings of a furry 'breakout' book. Pulp adventure and war stories are minority tastes, but everyone's enjoyed fairy tales.

The start of this sequence was where the story took a rather grim turn, though it could never overcome the humor. The installments also got longer, a welcome change; there was a lot of story and history to get through. In #27, as the revolution began to run wild, we saw posters making it a capital crime to (say) look as though one had been talking to an aristocrat lately, and it became the fashion in heaven to have head and body separate. An excellent reinterpretation of 'The Cat and the Fiddle', too. And while things got grim for Thomas in #28-30, the terror was mitigated by his inability to understand how much trouble he was in. And prison slop serving as an occasion to play 'Pease Porridge Hot' and 'Goldilocks'. And 'Old Mother Hubbard' adapted as prison rules. A truly loathsome swine in #29-30; I think he deserved more comeuppance despite one slight repentance in #30. The art is good throughout, but particularly so in the street scenes of #33, culminating in the big boom. She does a remarkably wide variety of characters remarkably well. Quite a sweet finale, if rather Apriland-December.

Mark Shaw's "Bronze Fur", in alternate issues from

#27 to #35, was a much more entertaining take on Doc Savage than the few straight comics adaptations I've seen. The villain is excellent, one that Lester Dent might have wished he dared to use. (But how does he make his mask do that?) The cover to #27 is a further demonstration that Doc Savage and crew (especially Monk and Ham) were made to be morphed. The miraculous escapes are no more unbelievable than in the books. Villainesses in the D.S. novels were almost all misunderstood women, though there were one or two in the series who were for real. Rose had a little more gumption than most of them (not to mention more sexual experience than most of them put together), though not up to Pat, of course. I was glad to see her shoot her tormentor, gladder to see her shocked to have done it. Of course, that sealed her fate; she had to die, if only as the old Rose, before the end of the story. Still, it was far from the worst of fates. The cartooning was of good quality throughout. Nice shading in the night scenes of #29. Great picture of Hamm heading for the water in #31. Curious teenyheaded Doc on page 4 of #33; someone should have caught that. The last installment is particularly good, with revelation, irony, and a pulpy miracle. So Doc is related to royalty, eh? He turned out remarkably well nonetheless. I don't know is Mark Shaw can manage a sequel to compare with this one, but I wouldn't mind seeing him try.

To be continued next issue!

Only a minor change in the Top Ten list this month! "Zaibatsu Tears: Puppet Warriors" pushed past Shon Howell's "Not Too Sirius". Remember, your votes are what determine this list, and you can vote as often as you like and give any story as many votes as you like! Any Furrlough story from its entire run is eligible, regardless of length. Ballot stuffing is encouraged, since this is basically a popularity contest!

- 1) HERE COMES A CANDLE by Mary Hanson-Roberts
- 2) STOSSTRUPP by Ted Sheppard
- 3) ZAIBATSU TEARS by Richard Bartrop
- 4) WATERING HOLE by Pat Kelley
- 5) BRONZE FUR by Mark Shaw
- 6) ROMANICS by Joe Rosales
- 7) ZAIBATSU TEARS: PUPPET WARRIORS by Richard Bartrop
- 8) NOT TOO SIRIUS by Shon Howell
- 9) UNDER REALM by Fred Perry
- 10) STINZ: BAD MEMORIES by Donna Barr

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Brian Sutton

(artist: Furrlough, Genus, Hit the Beach)

Pat Duke

(artist & writer: Mighty Tiny: Mouse Marines; colorist: Warrior Nun Areala)

and the ever-elusive

Shon Howell

(artist: Furrlough, Genus; editor: A-Bomb)!

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